Plastic Surgery, Innovation, and Creativity

Wei F. Chen, MD
Director, UIHC Laboratory for Surgical Skills and Simulation
Assistant Professor
Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Department of Surgery
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics

Wednesday, April 23 - 4:00 p.m. - 1344 Howe Hall

About the Speaker
Dr. Chen is a plastic surgeon with specialty focus on reconstructive microsurgery. He graduated from University of California at Berkeley with honor majoring in Molecular and Cell Biology. He completed medical school at the State University of New York at Brooklyn with Distinction in Investigative Research. After completing a 5-year general surgery residency at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with honor, he went on to complete an advanced fellowship training in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He then completed a prestigious Reconstructive Microsurgery fellowship at the world-renowned Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taiwan.

Dr. Chen is at the national forefront for innovative research and treatments involving microsurgery and supermicrosurgery. He accomplished a Midwest regional “first” in 2012 when he successfully performed a delicate microsurgical autologous lymph node transplant on a patient who suffered from post-mastectomy arm lymphedema. The novel surgery substantially improved her lymphedema, allowing her to return to an active lifestyle. In another “first” in the region, Dr. Chen performed supermicrosurgical lymphaticovenular anastomosis (LVA) under high powered surgical microscopes, successfully connecting 0.3 – 0.5 mm lymphatic vessels and veins together. Currently, Dr. Chen is one of a small number of surgeons in the country and the only one in the State of Iowa capable of performing supermicrosurgery, making University of Iowa University Hospital one of the seven institutions in the country providing these advanced state-of-the-art reconstructive procedures.