

Orlando C. Kirton, MD, FACS, MCCM, FCCP

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Dr. Orlando C. Kirton sits in the endowed *Ludwig J. Pyrtek, MD Chair in Surgery* at Hartford Hospital. The chair is named for Dr. Pyrtek, an esteemed surgeon at Hartford Hospital, who was devoted to the care of his patients and was an outstanding educator within his chosen field. A unique aspect of the chair is that its income is not used to support the salary of the Chief, but is used to enhance the education activities of the Department, such as the purchasing of state-of-the-art teaching devices, support of surgical resident research activities, educational travel for residents, and honoraria for nationally/internationally known clinicians/scientists to speak at grand rounds.

Dr. Kirton received his undergraduate degree from Brown University in Providence, RI and his medical degree, *cum laude*, from Harvard Medical School. He served his internship and residency in surgery at SUNY and then completed fellowships in surgical critical care and surgery of trauma at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Department of Surgery, University of Miami School of Medicine in Florida. At the University of Miami, he held the Academic Rank of Associate Professor of Surgery, served as the Director of the Trauma Intensive Care Unit at Jackson Memorial Hospital and served as the Interim Director of the Trauma Service. He was elected to membership of Alpha Omega Alpha at the University of Miami in 1996 and was honored as the outstanding senior attending in the Daughtry Family Department of Surgery in 1999. Furthermore, at the University of Miami School of Medicine, he was the recipient of the 1997 Teaching Award for commitment to excellence, enthusiasm for teaching and success in conveying the joy of learning to the University of Miami medical students rotating in the Department of General Surgery.

In addition to being the *Ludwig J. Pyrtek, MD, Chair in Surgery* at Hartford Hospital, Dr. Kirton holds the titles of Chief of the Department of Surgery, Chief of the Division of General Surgery, Associate Director of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit and current Director of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT) Level I Trauma Program. He served as Inaugural Director of the Acute Care Surgery Fellowship from 2013 – 2014. Dr. Kirton has revitalized the Surgery Department creating the Divisions of Bariatric Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Surgical Oncology, and Acute Care Surgery.

Dr. Kirton's current Academic Rank at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine is that of Professor of Surgery. He is also the Vice-Chairman of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Kirton served on the University of Connecticut Medical School's Admissions Committee from 1999 – 2002. He served on the University's Faculty Diversity Committee from 2000 – 2002. Dr. Kirton served as the Associate Program Director for the University of Connecticut General Surgery Residency from 1999 – 2009 and served as the Program Director from 2009 – 2013, at which time the program received full 5-year accreditation without citation or

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deficiencies. Furthermore, he was recognized with the outstanding teacher award from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine general surgery residents in 2006.

Dr. Kirton is a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery with additional qualification in Surgical Critical Care. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Critical Care Medicine and the American College of Chest Physicians, as well as a member of the Society of University Surgeons and the American Surgical Association. In 2013 Dr. Kirton received the Civetta Award from the University of Miami School of Medicine and in 2014 the Society of Critical Care Medicine bestowed him the Master of Critical Care Medicine distinction. Dr. Kirton has served as President of the Surgical Section of the National Medical Association and served on the Boards of Directors for the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the National Medical Association, and the Society of Black Academic Surgeons (SBAS).

Dr. Kirton is President of The Society of Black Academic Surgeons; he served as the Annual Meeting Program Chair of SBAS from 2011 to 2014. For the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST), he is currently a member of the Board of Managers, a member of the Membership Committee, a member of the Program Committee and a member of the Scholarship & Research Committee, as well as Chair of the Critical Care Committee. Dr. Kirton is a member of the Program Committee (representing the state of Connecticut) for the New England Surgical Society and is past president of the Connecticut Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. He has written extensively and has published articles and monologues in peer-reviewed, refereed journals as well as numerous chapters for surgical texts on Surgical Critical Care, Trauma, and Surgical Education.

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