

Several Millions in Research Funding + Who's Graduating!?

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UCSF DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2023

# Chair's Message

On June 9th, 2023, I shared the below message at our Graduation **Dinner** and I'd like to reshare for all who were unable to be in attendance.

Good evening and welcome to a most special event. It's been a very long time - too long - since we have been able to come together as a Department to celebrate our graduating chief residents, their families and loved ones who buoyed them through training, and our faculty and surgical community who have demonstrated day in and day out under what was often extreme duress what it means to be an academic surgeon committed to our learners, our patients, science, and community. I feel so blessed to



#### **Dr. Julie Ann Sosa**

have colleagues who have personified what it means to serve in spite of the seemingly apocalyptic world that we live in, where fires and floods, and a pandemic have brought unparalleled personal and professional challenges. So tonight is about returning to our tradition of coming together, sharing stories, catching up, giving thanks, laughing, and, yes, importantly, having fun. We will remember our UCSF Surgery Classes of 2020, 2021, and 2022 who graduated during the pandemic, and we will welcome our incoming interns.

For the sake of brevity, I'd like to focus on two things. First and most important, I'd like to give thanks. I am thankful for our health, for our surgical community, for our learners who are our legacy and who hopefully will take away from their training the very best from each of the faculty they have worked with, for our families and friends who have sacrificed alongside us and who have provided us with the love and strength to remain focused on mission and service, and for living in San Francisco and California, a place where human rights are mostly protected and deemed to be precious. But since, in the end, tonight is a graduation, I'd like to spend some of our time thinking about the future. If we have learned anything from the last several years, it is that we cannot predict the distant future, and maybe not even tomorrow. As Adam Grant would say, we need to think again – in new and different ways – about the path forward, and that likely will require unlearning and relearning many things. There is clearly change ahead. Our graduates and all of you can be and will be change agents for the better. How can we do this? I think we need to start by asking bold and honest questions and listening actively, with humility, before formulating an action plan. I hope all of you will carry the courage to be change agents, to champion our PRIDE values personally and professionally, to advocate for your patients and for their better access to equitable care, to be surgeon scientists that put forth research that is just, honest, and unbiased; to speak the truth at every turn and not be afraid to get political for the sake of our humanity.

Unfortunately, it feels like we are living at a time when science is precarious, and scientists are vulnerable. Yet before we are surgeons or scientists, we are all moral citizens of our democracy, which means that we have a duty and opportunity to love it, defend it, improve it, and combat systemic injustice, racism, homophobia, transphobia, and economic and social inequities. Cornell West once said that justice is what love looks like in public. Courage is defined as doing what is right despite being afraid. And so I call upon all of you now: carry your love for our profession and for each other with great courage every day of your lives. Congratulations to our chief residents, and thank you to their loved ones. And thank you to our educators and our education office staff for assembling this very special evening.

#### A MOMENT TO RECOGNIZE OUR

#### Awardees of the Night...



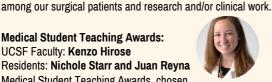
Junior Resident Faculty Teaching Award: Jonathan Carter Junior Resident Faculty Teaching Award, chosen by the general surgery intern class, recognizes faculty who has had great impact on their education during internship.



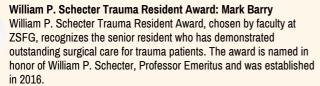
Muriel Steele Society Award: Laura Esserman Muriel Steele Society Award, chosen by the senior residents, recognizes a woman faculty member who embodies the spirit of Muriel Steele - a woman working to identify and address the unmet needs



**Medical Student Teaching Awards:** UCSF Faculty: Kenzo Hirose Residents: Nichole Starr and Juan Reyna Medical Student Teaching Awards, chosen by the UCSF Medical Students, recognizes faculty and residents as outstanding teacher, mentor and role model.









The Nusz Achievement Award: Hillary Braun The Nusz Achievement Award, chosen by the faculty and fellows, honors a chief resident who has demonstrated, by outstanding clinical work, teaching, and/or research efforts, great promise as a future leader in academic surgery.



#### The Chesson Award: Joseph Lin

The Chesson Award, for Compassion, chosen by the faculty, fellows and residents, honors a chief resident who has shown outstanding compassion to patients and families in the course of caring for their illness.



#### The Haile T. Debas Resident Teaching Award Teaching Award: Nichole Starr

The Haile T. Debas Resident Teaching Award, chosen by residents. recognizes the chief resident who has demonstrated the greatest commitment to teaching the art and science of surgery to their coresidents and students.



The Lawrence W. Way Critical Thinking Award: Alexander Kim The Lawrence W. Way Critical Thinking Award, chosen by faculty, recognizes the chief resident who has demonstrated notable ability to critically interpret and apply current medical concepts to the care of each patient.



#### **Lim-Thomas Faculty Teaching Award: Kenzo Hirose**

Lim-Thomas Faculty Teaching Award, chosen by the graduating chief resident class, recognizes faculty member who has had great impact on their education throughout residency.



#### Evan C. Werlin Lodestar Award: Nichole Starr

Evan C. Werlin Lodestar Award, chosen by the chief residents, recognizes a resident member of the UCSF Department of Surgery whose contributions transcend surgery - a 'lodestar' is a star that leads, inspires and guides - and the award will be given to a resident at any level who has gone above and beyond in support of their fellow residents. PAGE 2



**DUCATION** 

General Surgery research resident **Dr. Caroline Stephens'** work with **UCSF CHESA** and the **Laura Case Trust** provided trauma trolleys, protocols, and an advanced trauma team training course through **Kampala Advanced Trauma Course**.

Caroline also presented her work on how silos reduce gastroschisis mortality, previously a uniformly fatal disease in LMICs, at Mulago Hospital in Uganda at the APSA 2023 annual meeting.

**Dr. Mohammad Karimzada** (General Surgery PGY4) presented on Robotic Hepp-Couinaud repair of Bile Duct Injury facilitated by ICG at **SAGES 2023**.

On April 26th our General Surgery Chief residents: Dr. Keon Young (KYP) Park, Dr. Nicole Starr, Dr. Joseph Lin, and Dr. Zachary Matthay led grand rounds for our department.

UCSF Graduating Chief Residents - General Surgery

General Surgery Chief Resident	Post Graduation Plans
Dr. Hillary Braun	Transplant Surgery Fellowship, UCSF
Dr. Jhoanne Bautista (finished residency in December 2022)	Pursuing specialty training in Vascular Surgery
Dr. Alexa Glencer	Breast Surgical Oncology Fellowship, MD Anderson
Dr. Alexander Kim	Vascular Surgery Fellowship, UCSF
Dr. Joseph Lin	Colon & Rectal Surgery, Cleveland Clinic
Dr. Zachary Matthay	Vascular Surgery, Columbia University
Dr. Keon Young (KYP) Park	Pediatric Surgery Fellowship, UC San Diego
Dr. Marisa Schwab	Pediatric Surgery Fellowship, Stanford
Dr. Nichole Starr	Surgical Critical Care Fellowship, UCSF

UCSF Plastic Surgery

Dr. Deborah Martins	Hand & Microvascular Surgery Fellowship, Bucke Clinic in San Francisco
Dr. Osita Obi-Osuagwu	Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship, Marina Rox in Los Angeles
Dr. Laura Wong	Hand Surgery Fellowship, University of Washington

UCSF East-Bay

Dr. Mihir Chaudhary	Critical Care Fellowship, University of Chicago
Dr. Michael Davitt	Plastic Surgery Fellowship, University of Texas Southwest
Dr. Danyal Fer	Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship. Emory University
Dr. Jacquelyn Hemingway	Trauma & Critical Care Fellowship, UC Irvine
Dr. Diana Hsu	Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship, Ohio State University
Dr. Jordan Jackson	Breast Surgery Fellowship, Cedars-Sinai
Dr. Annie Tang	Breast Surgery Fellowship, UCSF



**Dr. Yuman Fong** 

Our 36th Annual J. Engelbert
Dunphy Resident Research
Symposium took place on May 3rd,
2023 with special guest & speaker
Dr. Yuman Fong, Chair of the
Department of Surgery at City of
hope Medical Center!

Resident winners included General Surgery research residents Drs. Simon Chu, Audrey Brown, Hannah Decker, and Caroline Melhado.



Dr. Phoebe Miller (General Surgery PGY1) and coauthors at the UCSF Global Surgery Student Alliance published an article on COVID-19, racial injustice, and medical student engagement with global health in the Journal of Surgical Research.

**Dr. Jane Wang** (General Surgery research resident) and **Fernanda Romero** (incoming General Surgery PGY1 resident) presented at the **SAGES 2023**.

Rising PGY2 Residents were fitted for loupes, with an enhanced focus on ergonomics thanks to Natalie Rodriguez (Surgery Education Fellow)

**Dr. Marisa Schwab** (General Surgery PGY5) represented the **UCSF Fetal Team** by helping to moderate a session at **APSA 2023**.

**Dr. Alison Baskin** (General Surgery PGY2) cowrote an article in Surgery on leveraging social medial for mentorship in surgery.

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**DUCATION PT. II** 



Dr. Nathan Brand

(General Surgery research resident and UCSF CHESA Fellow) presented his work at the Eastern Africa Fogarty Fellows Research Symposium and Workshop on measuring the burden of surgical oncology cases in Tanzania, important to informing resources, education, and need to diagnose/intervene sooner for resectable disease.

The combined meeting of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery and the Association For Surgical Education (ASE) kicked off on April 11th, 2023 in San Diego, California, and lasted until the 15th. UCSF was well represented at Surgery Education Week with 8 presentations, 4 workshops, 3 posters, and 2 award recipients.

Drs. Allyson Cook Chapman, Mackenzie Cook, Joseph Lin, Timothy Siegel and Buddy Marterre led a discussion titled "Time is Short: Tools to Integrate Palliative Care and Communications Skills

Education into Your Surgical Residency."

**Dr. Riley Brian** gave a fantastic presentation on the development of a standardized rubric for lap simulation using BEAR Assessment System.

**Dr. Fara Dayani** delivered an amazing poster presentation on use of video Microanalysis from a vascular anastomosis simulation session to understand the interaction of left and right handed surgeons!

**Dr. Riley Brian** and **Anya Edwards** both won teaching awards at the Association For Surgical Education (ASE) awards banquet.

Transplant surgeon **Dr. Shareef Syed**, incoming R1 **Anya Edwards** and **Scott Drapeau** of **UCSF Makers Lab** led a novel Simulation Curriculum for Advanced Open Surgical Skill Development workshop.

Dr. Tom Sorrentino (as seen on the right) presenting our work on UDI at #ACSLAS23.

On May 24th our General Surgery Chief residents: Dr. Hillary Braun, Dr. Alexa Glencer, Dr. Alex Kim and Dr. Marisa Schwab led grand rounds for our department.

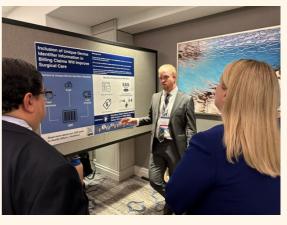
Anya Edwards (incoming General Surgery PGY1) and coauthors published an analysis on racial differences in colon cancer management in the International Journal for Equity in Health.

Dr. Hillary Braun (General Surgery PGY5) was a 2022-23 UCSF Health Exceptional Physician Award winner.

**Dr. Riley Brian** 



**Dr. Tom Sorrentino** 



A visit to our Immunogenetics and Transplantation Laboratory (ITL)

overseen by Dr. Rajalingam Raja



Jason Bautista Hospital Laboratory Technician



Immunogenetics and Transplantation Laboratory team w/ Dr. Christopher E. Freise & Dr. Rajalingam Raja



Khin Nyunt Clinical Histocompatibility Scientist Trainee

# Research

**Dr. James Koh**, Associate Professor of Surgery at UCSF, has been awarded a \$2.27 Million grant funded by the National Institute of Aging at the NIH for a project focusing on "A novel biochemical mechanism underlying primary hyperparathyroidism." A significant team effort with **Dr. Wenhan Chang** from the San Francisco VAMC and our department's key co-investigators, **Drs. Julie Ann Sosa & Shareef Syed + Dr. Elham Khanafshar** from the Department of Pathology were cited as the proposal's major strength and asset!!

**\$2.27**Million

For his project "Association between germline genetic variants and response to checkpoint inhibitors in breast cancer" Dr. Kirkpatrick Fergus received \$50,000 from the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

For her "Timing of Surgery in Hereditary Medullary Thyroid Cancer? - A Discrete Choice Experiment" study the Mount Zion Fund has granted Dr. Sanizana Roman \$40,000.

The National Institute of Health's National Cancer Institute (NCI) has sponsored Dr. Kimberly Kirkwood (pictured right) with an U01 award totaling \$359,302 for her study "Advancing the Clinical Translation of Cyst Fluid Assays for Early Detection of Pancreatic Cancer."

**Dr. Kyle M. Cromer** was awarded \$150,002 by the **American Society of Hematology** for the study "Enrichment of erythroid cells using truncated EPO receptor."

**\$3.46**Million

Our Chair, **Dr. Julie Ann Sosa** & **Dr. Heather Yeo**, Associate Professor of Surgery at Weill-Cornell were awarded a \$3.46 Million R01 grant to fund their multi-PI study: 'Addressing surgical disparities at the root: Working to improve diversity in the surgical workforce' by the **National Institute on Minority and Health Disparities**.

Fun Fact: Dr. Yeo has worked with Dr. Sosa since she was a resident & Dr. Sosa was a junior faculty member at Yale University 20 years ago!!

UCSF 's Center to Advance Trauma-Informed Health Care: University of California ACEs Aware Family Resilience
Network (CTHC-UCAAN) has provided Dr. Marissa Boeck with \$793,000 in funding for her study on "Advancing Trauma
Informed Care for Emergency Surgery Patients at ZSFG." Dr. Boeck has also been awarded \$50,000 from the American Assn
for the Surgery of Trauma for her project on "Identifying and Addressing Unmet Needs of Non-Violent Injury Survivors at a
Safety Net Hospital in San Francisco."

Dr. Alexander Lin (pictured below) was awarded \$83,500 via the UCSF Innovation Ventures - 2023 Catalyst Award for his study on "Improving Health Equity of Children with Cleft Palate-Artificial Intelligence to Improve Early Detection of Surgical Speech Problems."



\$550,000 in funding was recieved by **Dr. Tammy Chang** from the **National Science Foundation** to aid her project "Advanced cryopreservation of complex bioengineered tissues" over the next three years.

\$793K

The Association for Surgical Education Foundation presented Dr. Adnan Alseidi with the 2023 Desert Pyramid Grant worth \$10,000 for his project "Creating an Asynchronous and Decentralized Training Program to Expand Laparoscopic."

# Accomplishments

## BIGTHINGS



**Dr. Adnan Alseidi**, our Vice Chair for Education and Gastrointestinal Surgeon, was inducted as a **Fellow** into the **American Surgical Association** at their **143rd** Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada.



Endocrine Surgeon Dr. Sanziana Roman was awarded the 2022-23 Long-Term Mentor Award at the 2023 Inquiry Symposium and Dean's Prize Awards. Her nomination came from her mentee Christopher Johnson.



Breast Oncologic Surgeon-Scientist **Dr. Rita Mukhtar** presented her 2023 Abstract on "Breast Conservation Surgery and Mastectomy..." at the **American Surgical Association's 143rd Annual Meeting** on April 20th in Ontario, Toronto, Canada.



Our Vice-Chair of Research & UCSF Transplant Surgeon Dr. Sandy Feng + Anna Mayo, Christopher Myers, John Bucuvalas, & Courtney Juliano's latest perspective "Supporting Robust Teamwork — Bridging Technology and Organizational Science" made it into the New England Journal of Medicine.



**Dr. Johannes Kratz,** our Director of Minimally Invasive and Robotic Thoracic Surgery, and **Dr. Paola Betancur** of UCSF's Department of Radiation Oncology have been named recipients of a **Full CoProject Award** for the **Bakar Immunox Initiative CoProjects RFA 2023** cycle!



Foregut, EGS, and Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Surgeon Dr. Carter Lebares was awarded the 2022-23 Long-Term Mentor Award. Dr. Lebares was nominated by her mentee Anya Edwards.

# Accomplishments



**Dr. Lucy Kornblith**, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Trauma Surgeon, Director of Gender Equity and Co-founder, Co-chair of the Muriel Steele Society received the Esteemed Holly Smith Award for **Exceptional Service to the School of Medicine**.



**Dr. Esther Kim**, our UCSF Associate Professor + Director of Gender Affirming Surgery, received the **2022-23 Long-Term Mentor Award**, highlighting her pursuit of innovation, leadership, & research. Dr. Kim was nominated by her mentee, **Siyou Song**.



Dr. Simon Chu, a mentee of Dr. Peter G. Stock & Dr. Kyle Cromer, received the 2023 Jon Fryer Resident Scientist Scholarship from the American Society of Transplant Surgeons for his proposal entitled "Improving the Safety of Stem-cell-derived Beta Cell Transplantation with Inducible Safety Switches."



At the American Pediatric Surgical Association Annual Meeting in Orlando in May, **Dr. Doruk Ozgediz**, Professor of Surgery & Director of the UCSF Center for Global Surgery and Health Equity, received the **Donald E. Meier Humanitarian Award.** 



For his work on "Mapping the Immune Microenvironment in Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms Using Single Cell Sequencing," Dr. Joel Ramirez was chosen to receive the 2023 Hellman Family Clinical-Translational Research Development Award from the Bakar ImmunoX Initiative at UCSF and to participate in the 2023-2024 UCSF NHLBI StARR Scholars Program.



Kalpana Harish, MPH, our Senior Administrative Director for UCSF Transplant, CT Surgery, & the Immunogenetics and Transplantation Laboratory (ITL) was awarded the Honorable Holly Smith Award for Exceptional Service to the School of Medicine.

# Highlights

#### Dr. James Gardner

#### **Pew Awards**



Huge congratulations to our own **Dr. James Gardner**, an outstanding surgeon-scientist in the division of Transplant Surgery, on his historic achievement as the **first surgeon** of any kind ever elected to the highly competitive **Pew Biomedical Scholars program** — in its nearly **40-year** history!! The Pew Scholars Program elects young investigators of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of human health and supports their independent research.

The majority of Pew Scholars are PhD scientists, with occasional MD-PhD members, and no surgeon of any kind has ever been elected. Prior Scholars include numerous Nobel laureates including *David Julius*, *Carolyn Bertozzi, Carol Greider*, and *Craig Mello*, along with other UCSF research luminaries including *Jason Cyster*, *Alexander Johnson*, *Mark Anderson*, *and Kevan Shokat*.

The Gardner lab studies the fundamental mechanisms by which the immune system learns to distinguish self from non-self, and the cellular and molecular mediators of this process. Dr. Gardner previously discovered a class of cells called extrathymic Aire-expressing cells, or eTACs, which play critical roles in

immune regulation. Recently his lab has made groundbreaking

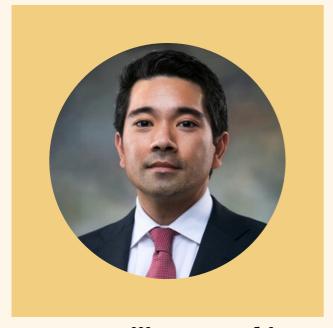
discoveries about these populations and their diverse roles in autoimmunity, tumor immunotherapy, healthy pregnancy, and rejection of transplanted organs. By understanding these fundamental mechanisms of immune self-education, Dr. Gardner hopes to develop more precise methods to both understand and treat a broad range of human disease. He also continues with an active clinical practice of liver, kidney, and pancreas transplantation in pediatric and adult patients.

We are also delighted that **Dr. Rebeca Rocha** (**pictured right**), a postdoctoral research fellow in Dr. Amar Nijagal's lab, has been named a *2023 Latin American Pew Fellow* by the **Pew Charitable Trusts**. Dr. Rocha received her PhD in Molecular Biology and Genetics at the **Universidade Estadual de Campinas** in Brazil. Her proposal is focused on how dysregulated immune signals in the developing liver promote the formation of pediatric liver tumors. This line of investigation is an extension of the ongoing research in Dr. Nijagal's lab on how the immune system regulates tissues in the developing liver.

**Dr. Rocha** will be co-mentored by **Dr. Nijagal** and **Dr. Mike Rosenblum** (Dermatology). The team is over the moon as Rebeca went through a highly competitive application and interview process, and was the only one selected for this award from her home country (**Brazil**).



#### **New Hires**



Dr. Seiji Yamaguchi

is an abdominal transplant surgeon who will join our department as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery on October 1, 2023.



**Dr. Rachel Koch** 

will join our department on October 1, 2023, as an acute care surgeon and Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery in the Division of General Surgery.

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# WE'RE NUMBER 2 NATIONALLY

#### Dr. Adnan Alseidi explains.....

UCSF School of Medicine (SOM) is ranked second nationally in surgical education & training in the most recent U.S. News and World Report rankings for the academic year 2023-24. This is national acknowledgment of the dedication of the UCSF SOM and, in particular, our Department of Surgery faculty, residents, fellows, and staff, all of whom are committed to training future physicians in the treatment of the surgical patient and surgical disease.



**Jayson Santiago** 

Dr. John Rose



#### Lymphedema Surgery Now Possible at UCSF

This will be the first comprehensive lymphedema program in the UC System thanks to the hiring of Plastic and Reconstructive surgeon **Dr. John Rose** (pictured left in white coat) with Jayson **Santiago**, who facilitates our lymphedema perioperative team (including all instruments and supplies). Dr Rose is now offering surgeries for lymphedema treatment and prevention that have not been performed at UCSF up to this point (some of them have not been offered in the entire UC system) and for which there has historically been very limited access in the Bay Area.

Over the last year, our steering committee has established protocols to workup patients comprehensively, and we now provide surgeries that had never been performed before at UCSF. The ability to provide lymphedema surgery puts UCSF on par with other centers of excellence in cancer care (such as Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Memorial Sloan Kettering, and MD Anderson), all of whom have lymphedema programs within their surgical departments.

#### A brief summary of our new diagnostic equipment that we will soon be deploying in our clinic:

#### o Excision/Debulking: Direct and liposuction assisted:

- o Procedure to remove excess fat caused by chronic lymphedema from the affected extremities to reduce the volume of the limb. Sometimes using liposuction, in which excess fat is suctioned out from under the skin.
- o Immediate Lymphatic Reconstruction:
- o Prophylactic procedure to reconstruct lymphatic channels at the time of lymph node removal and/or dissection to prevent onset of lymphedema
- o Vascularized Lymph Node Transfer:
- o Procedure to take lymph node and vessels from on part of the body to another part of the body to create a new pathway for lymph fluid to drain from an affected limb.

#### o Lymphovenous Bypass:

- o Procedure to reroute the lymphatic system directly to the venous system to significantly reduce the swelling associated with lymphedema and, in some cases, return the limb to normal function.
- 1. **Stryker** Lymphatic mapping with SPY Flourescence. Helps to identify the lymph nodes to be removed for evaluation. Minimizes the risk associated with traditional lymph node removal.
- 2. **Bioimpedance spectroscopy** (SOZO) helps identify the onset of lymphedema in an arm or leg before patients experience noticeable swelling. Is recommended to be done every 3 months for the first 3 years and then every 6 months for years 4 and 5 followed by annually afterwards.
- 3. **Perometer** used for the accurate recording of volumes, or the circumferences of extremities and their changes. Changes in volume, such as e.g. oedema, can be recorded with high precision.



#### **ELSE IS GOING ON??**

Last month on May 30th, 2023

Dr. Sandy Feng and Dr. Qizhi Tang served as speakers for a Getting to Patients: Translating Scientific Discovery to Patient Benefit discussion which is a joint venture between the Broad Stem Cell Institute (Institute for Regenerative Medicine) and the Department of Surgery study titled "Transplantation without Immunosuppression: Inventing an Archimedes Lever" where they highlighted the symbiotic relationship between basic science research and clinical practice.

Immediately following, Dr. Tippi MacKenzie led a Q&A Session.



A moment after our "Getting to Patients" discussion with a patient and his with mother, our speakers, Q&A moderator, **Dr. Chris Freise** and **Dr. John Roberts**.

MARE YOU

On April 26th, 2023, Dr. Marissa Boeck made a trip to The Mission Preparatory school, located at 1050 York Street, San Francisco, a few blocks from ZSFG, for their second annual career day. The school teaches K-8th grade, and Dr. Boeck spoke to 2nd graders about being a trauma surgeon. Our connection with the school was formed between the school's principal, Cynthia Jerez, and Dr. Lucy Kornblith, after she along with most members of the ZSFG trauma team cared for Cynthia's brother. We are also exploring additional opportunities to connect with schools in the Mission neighborhood for further outreach activities.



Principal Cynthia Jerez & Dr. Marissa Boeck



Another moment with the 2nd Grade Students



Dr. Tasce Bongiovanni



Dr. Hannah Decker

For their study "Using a Community-Centered Approach to Assess Patient Acceptability of Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in Patients Following Trauma," Dr. Tasce Bongiovanni, Dr. Hannah Decker, Dr. Emilia De Marchis from the Department of Family and Community Medicine, & WOMAN, INC received a \$75,000 Rap for Team Science Grant from UCSF's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI)



Dr. Mignote Yilma



Dr. Ryutaro Hirose

On June 6th, 2023, it was revealed at the 2023 American Transplant Congress (ATC) during the ASTS Research Grants & Pioneer Award Ceremony that Dr. Mignote Yilma, who has been mentored by Dr. Ryutaro Hirose was selected by the ASTS Foundation to receive the 2023 ASTS-Takeda Socio Economic and Racial Disparity (SERD) Grant worth \$50,000.

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# DEI

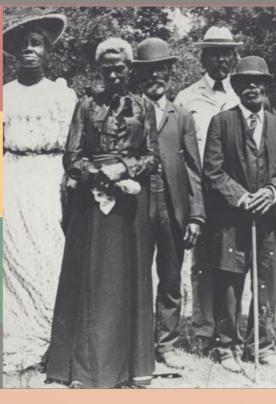
#### What is Juneteenth?

June 19th or "Juneteenth" is a very important day in African American history. Juneteenth, or "Freedom Day" is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

This holiday has been dubbed "America's Second Independence Day" and is regarded as the "longest running African-American holiday." It was on June 19th, 1865, that Union soldiers, led by Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were free which was almost two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1st, in 1863.

On January 1st, 1980, Juneteenth became an official state holiday in Texas through the efforts of Al Edwards, an African American state legislator. The successful passage of this bill marked Juneteenth as the first emancipation celebration granted official state recognition. Edwards has since actively sought to spread the observance of Juneteenth across America. In the wake of the nationwide protests against police brutality in 2020, the push for federal recognition of Juneteenth gained new momentum, and Congress quickly pushed through legislation in the summer of 2021.

On June 17th, 2021, President Biden signed the bill into law, making Juneteenth the 11th holiday recognized by the federal government.



#### Why do we celebrate Pride Month in June?

The Stonewall riots began on June 28th, 1969, and marked a turning point in the LGBTQ movement for civil rights. The riot started when a group of people at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City, were being harassed by police officers. The harassment by police wasn't new to the bar's patrons, but that night the community rose up against it. The decision of a few brave Stonewall Inn patrons to fight back and stand against police brutality and injustice kicked off days and demonstrations throughout the city to protest the discrimination and mistreatment of gay and lesbian communities.

UCSF has begun implementing the University of California's Gender Recognition and Lived Name (GRLN) policy, aligning with their PRIDE Values to create an inclusive environment. The policy allows individuals to be recognized with their accurate gender identity and lived name, offering at least three gender options and the ability to use lived names in the UC system. The goal is to fully implement the policy by June 2024, emphasizing the importance of using correct names, pronouns, and fostering a sense of belonging for everyone in the UCSF community.

#### **SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference**

Riley Jackson (pictured middle), is one of the beneficiaries of our department's generous donation to support attendance at the Student National Medical Association's Annual Medical Education Conference.

Thanks to this donation Riley has attended several panels at the conference, including "Building Generational Wealth," "How to be a Successful Sub-Intern," and "In My Own Words: Becoming a Physician Author." The surgery-specific tips she learned included writing her name and glove size on the operating room whiteboard, grabbing gloves for the residents, attending, and herself, and researching the procedure the night before to assist better and ask more informed questions.

Riley says "I also greatly appreciated the opportunity to connect with many general surgery residency programs. I learned more about factors I should consider when applying (research time, special tracks, hospital culture, public health opportunities, etc.).

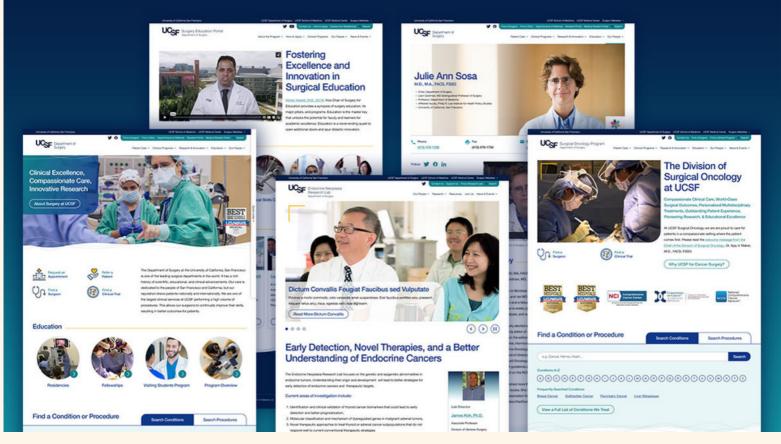
Additionally, I staffed UCSF's booth for premedical college students and spoke with dozens of students who were underrepresented in medicine and considering applying to UCSF."



# UCSF SURGERY WEBSITE UPDATE

by Jason Powers





We are very excited about our upcoming website redesign launch that is happening this summer.

This has been a year-long project spearheaded by our Web Manager, Jason Powers, working with the agency, Kanopi, as well as with Rob Mayfield and Department of Surgery leadership.

We will initially launch the **Adult CT website** on 6/29 (date is subject to change) and we will begin rolling out our 80+ websites in "batches" (a few sites at a time) every 1-2 weeks. The number of sites being launched will be determined on a "rollout order" as the build out process evolves.

The new websites will have a beautiful and modern design and with a completely new content management system (Drupal) which will make it easy to update. Training sessions will be available for the new system this summer (dates to follow).

#### Features:

- Search engine optimization
- Easy, flexible content editing
- Gated portal sites
- Easy media management (video, images)
- Content approval workflow
- Shared content (Bios, Clinical Trials, Patient, etc)
- Responsive, mobile-friendly theming
- WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility

#### Video documentation & site training will be available

- "Sweat factor" the work and effort put into this redesign is an estimated 4000+ hours including over 1500 hours of development time.
  - Migrated 10000+ webpages and 25000+ media files

# **Skills Lab**

#### NO GOODBYES ONLY CHEERIO'S



Thank you to **Dr. Natalie Rodriguez** and **Dr. Fara Dayani** for all of their hard work in the Surgical Skills Lab this past year! They have led and assisted many of the weekly skill sessions.

Skills Lab leadership says "We are extremely proud of Natalie and Fara and wish them the best in their next chapters." Natalie will be a PGY3 in the University of Hawaii's Surgery Residency Program and Fara will be joining the Radiation Oncology Residency Program at Kaiser LA as a PGY2.

### INTERN FINAL EVALUATION

On April 26, 2023, our interns participated in our first ever Laparoscopic Final Evaluation! The faculty assessed needle

The faculty assessed needle loading, stitch placement, intracorporeal tying, extra-corporeal tying, enterotomy, and running the bowel. All the interns received excellent feedback with lots of tips/tricks!



Thank you to **Dr. Julie Ann Sosa**, **Dr. Kenzo Hirose**, **Dr. Lan Vu**, **Dr. Adnan Alseidi**, **Dr. David Bayne**, and **Dr. Jon Carter** for supporting our interns in this milestone!







#### INTERN SKILLS LAB ROTATION

Our intern class was the first to rotate through the "Surgical Skills Lab Rotation" this year. In this rotation, the interns are required to reach a set of benchmarks in robotic, lap, and open skills. The curriculum consists of one-to-one mentored surgical skills teaching, as well as self-directed teaching. We are proud to announce that the intern FLS passing rate is 100%!



Our New Interns start on June 21st, 2023

Please remember to introduce yourselves when you see new faces....

One x One Faculty Meetings with Dr. Sosa are on the Horizon

Check your Calendars..

Assistant and Associate Professors Gatherings have begun

Stay tuned for more invites..

Thank You