Kudos

**Benjamin Tian** has been awarded an NIH T32 Training Grant for the 2020-2021 training year.

**Garrett Salzman** was accepted into the 2020-22 UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program. He will be working with Dr. Marcia McGory-Russell to examine factors affecting outcomes for geriatrics patients in the VA system.

**Gabe Oland** received funding from the Food and Drug Administration to create 3D printed COVID-19 testing swabs.

**Kent Garber** was awarded the Thoracic Senior Resident award, and **Mariah Blegen** was presented with the Thoracic Junior Resident award during Cardiothoracic Graduation in June. Kent also recently published an article entitled, “Structural inequities in the global supply of personal protective equipment” which you can view here: [https://www.bmj.com/content/370/bmj.m2727](https://www.bmj.com/content/370/bmj.m2727)

Congratulations Everyone!

Residency News

**Your 2020-2021 Class Representatives**

- **R1:** Ashley-Marie Green-Lott
- **R2:** Mariah Blegen
- **Lab 1:** Garrett Salzman
- **Lab 2:** Max Schumm
- **R3:** Alex Moore
- **R4:** Yas Sanaiha
- **R5:** Amanda Dann
- **R5:** Kent Garber
- **R5:** Tara Russell

**New Children’s Hospital Los Angeles Training Site Increases Access to Pediatric Surgery Experience**

Starting with the 2020-2021 academic year, we welcomed the opportunity for pediatric surgery experience at CHLA where R4 general surgery residents rotate for a 4-week period. Don’t forget to complete your rotation evaluations so we can continue to improve your educational experience.

Pictured to the left is R4 resident Jill Dworsky operating at CHLA with UCLA General Surgery alum and CHLA Pediatric Surgeon Dr. Lorraine Kelley-Quon.
Welcome to our New and Retuming Faculty and Staff

We extend a warm welcome to all faculty and staff members who recently joined the Surgery Department. Whether you are returning to UCLA, or you are brand new, we’re thrilled to have you here with us.

Clinton Fields, MS, MBA, FACHE
Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Clinton Fields started working in healthcare in high school at Cook County Hospital and has been in the healthcare environment ever since.

Lisa Gorski, BSM
Clinical Director
Lisa brings over 30 years (13 with UCLA Health) of Administrative and Clinical Operations Management experience to our Department.

Jesus Ulloa, MD, MBA, MSHPM
Dr. Ulloa is a 2020 graduate of the UCLA Vascular Fellowship. We are very fortunate to have him join our faculty.
Specialty: Vascular Surgery

Ginger Slack, MD
Dr. Slack is a true Bruin. We are excited to see her join the faculty after her undergraduate and graduate education at UCLA.
Specialty: Plastic Surgery

James Watson, MD
Dr. Watson is a former UCLA Associate Professor and Microsurgery fellow. We are delighted to see him join the faculty in our community sites.
Specialty: Plastic Surgery
Resident Wellness

Fans of musical numbers, rejoice! Lin Manuel Miranda’s groundbreaking musical about Alexander Hamilton and the foundation of America is now available for streaming on Disney Plus. The filmed production features the well-regarded and diverse original cast as they bring the Broadway hit to the screen.

SAGES 2021 Resident and Fellow Abstract Awards

The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) will recognize outstanding abstracts submitted and presented by surgical Residents and Fellows at the SAGES 2020 Annual Meeting with the awards listed below. The purpose of these awards is to encourage the development of clinical and research-oriented work in the field of general surgery:

- Best Resident/Fellow Abstract Presentation Award
- Best Resident/Fellow Scientific Session Presentation

First place winners will receive $500, 2nd place winners receive $300, and 3rd place winners are awarded $200. Abstract submission is happening now. Deadline: Friday, September 25, 2020. Submit your paper and video abstracts to the Scientific Session of the SAGES 2021 Annual Meeting at: https://www.sages.org/meetings/abstracts/

Coping in the Age of COVID-19

Finding ways to address the stress and uncertainty associated with the pandemic remains a priority. While the Behavioral Wellness Center faculty and staff are always available, listed below are additional resources.

COVID-19 Related Stress Screening and Dialogue Program
Designed to provide an opportunity to informally check-in with a counselor and speak anonymously. Participants receive support from a trained counselor through the website with no commitment to continue counseling services.
https://support.uclawellness.org/

Emotional Support Check-In Line
Available via text or call by contacting 310-903-8854.

COVID-19 Related Educational and Entertainment Resources for Children
The state of the world is already hard to process for the average adult, but for children, it is significantly more difficult to grasp. Sesame Street makes it easier with their webpage dedicated to help children better understand their new normal.
https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/health-emergencies/

COVID-19 Testing for Residents
If you develop any of the known symptoms for COVID-19, please call our Infection Prevention hotline at 310-267-3300 for further instructions and possible testing.

Interns and PGY2 residents, the deadline to obtain your Postgraduate Training License is August 31, 2020. For more info, visit the Medical Board of CA website: https://www.mbc.ca.gov/Applicants/Physicians_and_Surgeons/#COVID19_DCA-Waiver-20-13
Dr. Agopian’s recent publication in Precision Oncology was co-authored by general surgery residents, Colin Court, Paul Winograd, Ben DiPardo, and other UCLA faculty and residents.

Dr. Guido Eibl, Professor in-residence in the Department of Surgery, and his research team have been awarded a $5.75 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to study the correlation between obesity, inflammation, and pancreatic cancer. According to Dr. Eibl, “This study will help us better understand not only how those mechanisms influence the formation of pancreatic tumors but also how we can develop preventions that help people who are at a higher risk for this cancer.”

https://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/grant-for-study-of-obesity-and-pancreatic-cancer

Congratulations Dr. Minna Lee on three new grants. She recently received the UCLA SPORE in Prostate Cancer Developmental Research Program award, the Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research Innovation award, and the Tate Fund.

Dr. Justine Lee, Bernard G. Samat Endowed Chair in Craniofacial Biology, has received a new NIH R01 grant: “Osteoclast modulatory biomaterials for skull regeneration.” Her clinical research investigates surgical outcomes for patients treated with craniofacial conditions with an emphasis on improving long-term psychosocial functioning. Dr. Lee’s research is well established and remains continuously funded through several competitive sources.

The topics will range from introductory lessons to more advanced statistics topics viewed from Dr. Livingston's unique perspective as an editor, including insights into the most common mistakes authors make when publishing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome to the Cuteness Corner

Baby Rowan, son of thoracic fellow, Alex Bridges, and his wife, Leslie Moclock.

To be featured in future issues, email the cute photos that capture the moments in your life to Chi at cquach@mednet.ucla.edu. Thank you to this month’s contributors: Alex Bridges, Danielle Graham, and Ian MacQueen.

Welcome to the World, Madison (Maddie) Graham MacQueen!
Maddie was born on 7/10/20 to Danielle Graham, and Ian MacQueen. Congrats to the new parents!
UCLA VIRTUAL GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY INFORMATION EVENT

Join us to learn about our program from the Program Director and Associate Program Director and chat with our fantastic residents in small groups!

When:
August 12, 2020
September 9, 2020
September 16, 2020
5p PST / 8p EST

Register at
https://bit.ly/3fFiKQR

Questions?
Contact one of our lab residents Rivfka at rivfka@mednet.ucla.edu

Register here: https://bit.ly/3fFiKQR
## Monthly Quote

When you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have to speak up. You have to do something.
- John Lewis

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### Counseling & Consultation

The UCLA Staff and Faculty Counseling Center provides free counseling assessment, and referral services to faculty, staff, and their immediate family members.

Contact: 310-794-0245

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### UCLA Health hospitals rank #1 in Los Angeles and California, #4 nationally

UCLA Health also earned top ranking in 13 specialties, some of which are in the surgery department:
- Gastrointestinal Surgery #5
- Lung Surgery #5
- Heart Surgery #7
- Neurosurgery

Congratulations to all faculty and staff who work together to provide top-tier patient care.

---

### 2020-21 Upcoming Events (dates are subject to change)

- **Wed, Aug 12:** Virtual General Surgery Residency Information Event
- **Wed, Aug 26:** General Surgery Town Hall
- **Wed, Sept 9:** Virtual General Surgery Residency Information Event
- **Wed, Sept 16:** Virtual General Surgery Residency Information Event
- **Wed, Nov 18:** Virtual General Surgery Interviews
- **Wed, Dec 2:** Virtual General Surgery Interviews
- **Wed, Dec 16:** Virtual General Surgery Interviews

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### Wednesday Conferences

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<thead>
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<th>Event Name</th>
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### From the Office of Surgical Education
Department of Surgery
UCLA School of Medicine
10833 Le Conte Ave, 72-235 CHS
Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-825-6643

[http://surgery.ucla.edu/general-surgery-residency](http://surgery.ucla.edu/general-surgery-residency)

Constructed by Andrea Mclean

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