Kudos

Ivy Huang presented at this year’s Association for Surgical Education (ASE) Virtual Highlights 2020. Her presentation was entitled, “Multi-institutional Virtual Mock Oral Examinations for General Surgery Residents in the Era of COVID-19.”

Dr. Brian Kadera has been awarded a seed grant for the project entitled “Elucidation of metabolic dependencies in liposarcoma to predict response to novel targeted therapy.”

Dr. Matthias Stelzner will be stepping down from his post as the Director of Surgical and Perioperative Careline and Chief of Surgery at the VA Greater Los Angeles Medical Center in the first week of January, 2021. Dr. Jessica O’Connell will assume the role of interim director and acting chief.

A superb educator and gifted administrator, Dr. Stelzner has worked with many clinical chairs and clinical leads to enhance the educational opportunities on the surgical and anesthesia services at the VA and has greatly contributed to the education of hundreds of UCLA students, residents, and fellows.

Dr. Stelzner has led the VA Surgery Department with 10 Divisions along with the Departments of Anesthesia and Optometry. He has established several successful programs including a multispecialty surgical ICU service and a regional specialty surgery program at VA clinic sites in Southern California to improve care for Veterans.

Thank you, Dr. Stelzner!

Cancer Therapy Advisor interviewed Deanna Attai, MD, about her latest study that surveyed women with breast cancer to find out how they feel about endocrine therapy.

The Press-Enterprise interviewed Peyman Benharash, MD, about how the pandemic has changed health care through an increased focus on telehealth.

USA Today and KNX Radio interviewed Timothy Donahue, MD, about the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and a look at advances in pancreatic cancer treatment.

David Rigberg, MD, threw the ceremonial first pitch at the Los Angeles Dodgers vs. Oakland Athletics game on September 22. See him in action here: https://twitter.com/Dodgers/status/1308577069559721984

UCLA was ranked No. 1 public university by U.S. News & World Report for the fourth straight year. In addition, UCLA was the only one to be ranked highly in social mobility, which measures the number of Pell Grant recipients and six-year graduation rates for those students.
Virtual ACS Clinical Congress 2020

In recognition of the difficult year, the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress 2020 will be free of charge. Taking place October 3-7, this year’s meeting will be held virtually and offer sessions touching all surgical specialties, as well as issues crossing our profession and important to surgeons globally. [www.FACS.org/ClCon2020](http://www.FACS.org/ClCon2020).

Additionally, access to this year’s ACS Quality and Safety Conference is free. The content is informative, engaging and relevant to all specialties and roles. Registration: [https://www.compusystems.com/servlet/ar?evt_uid=889](http://https://www.compusystems.com/servlet/ar?evt_uid=889).

Opportunities for Abstract Submission

The [2021 ACGME Annual Educational Conference](https://www.cvent.com/c/abstracts/1d5a8478-4fac-4a34-a5f8-e2393981f20b) (February 24-26, 2021), themed Meaning in Medicine: Mastering the Moment, will host elements of the live conference in a virtual space, including educational sessions, networking, the Exhibit Hall, and posters. Abstract proposals are being accepted until October 8.

Abstract submission to the Scientific Session of the Association for Surgical Education 2021 Meeting is open until November 6, 2020. To submit your abstracts, please click here: [https://surgicaleducation.com/call-for-abstracts/](https://surgicaleducation.com/call-for-abstracts/).

Association of Program Directors in Surgery has announced a request for proposals. A Limited Program Grants (LPG) is available for a one or two-year duration with a funding level of up to $30,000 that studies: “Method to assess student aptitude and factors that impact residency performance.” A completed proposal must be submitted to the APDS by January 28, 2021 at. Full details for this RFP are located on the homepage under “Highlights” of the APDS website ([http://apds.org/](http://apds.org/)).

Resident Wellness

A drive-thru haunted house is coming to Costa Mesa this fall. The experience will translate bits of spooky folklore into a series of special effects and creature-filled sets, plus three interactive show zones that you can park inside of. The event runs from October 1 through November 1. Purchase tickets here: [https://urbanlegendshaunt.com/](https://urbanlegendshaunt.com/)

A few residents chilled out over ice cream at Sweet Rose Creamery in Brentwood last month.
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Robotics Skills Courses in CASIT, September 14-24

Daily four-hour beginner and intermediate level robotic skills courses took place in CASIT using a Xi robotic system and virtual simulators. Course participants included dozens of residents, fellows, and interested faculty across multiple departments. Simultaneously, Dr. Dutson offered two webinars on robotic surgical skills, attended by approximately 130 participants in over 20 countries. This would not have been possible without our amazing faculty instructors: Drs. Biderman, Cameron, Dutson, Girgis, Kazanjian, King, MacQueen, Robinson, and Toste. Thank you!
September Skills Labs for R1-R5 Surgical Residents on September 9

R1s learned about surgical airway, airway management, ventilators and ABG interpretation, and A-line placement. We are grateful to Drs. Sara Crager, Catherine Juillard, Jason Lee, Elaine Liew, Travis Shiba, Susana Vacas, and Irina Vartapetian, for teaching these courses.

R2s-R3s participated in an intensive breast ultrasound and biopsy course taught by Drs. Deanna Attai, Michele Carpenter, and Minna Lee.

R4s-R5s were with Drs. Formosa Chen and Brian Kadera in the cadaver lab to practice surgical techniques and procedures. Personal protective equipment was used by all participants and social distancing was encouraged.

Special thanks to Valentin Ybiemas who tirelessly works to support all our educational conferences and activities!!
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

FAST Ultrasound Course led by Emergency Medicine faculty and fellow volunteers

UCGHI GloCal Health Fellowship

The GloCal Health Fellowship is a 12-month, mentored research fellowship for investigators interested in studying diseases and conditions in developing countries. The fellowship is designed for: US doctoral students (PhD, DrPH, etc.), professional students (MD, DDS, DVM, PharmD, etc.) and postdoctoral fellows from any discipline, as well as foreign postdoctoral fellows from affiliated international sites in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Learn more and apply here: [http://ucghi.universityofcalifornia.edu/fellowships/glocal-health-fellowship](http://ucghi.universityofcalifornia.edu/fellowships/glocal-health-fellowship)
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Surgical Subspecialty R1s worked on their Bowel Anastomosis Skills with Dr. Brian Kadera

Are you registered to Vote?
Election Day, November 3, is fast approaching. The deadline for California voters to register to vote online or by mail is October 19.

For those in close location to the UCLA campus, safe, early in-person voting or ballot drop off is available. Check your registration status or register to vote in CA here: [https://registertovote.ca.gov/](https://registertovote.ca.gov/)
- Employees scheduled to work at least eight (8) hours that day and who do not have enough time to vote outside of their normal working hours may take up to two (2) hours of paid leave at the beginning or end of a workday to vote in local, state, or national general elections or primaries.
- Employees who know or have reason to believe that time off to vote will be necessary must inform their supervisors as soon as possible and no later than two (2) working days before Election Day.
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome to the Cuteness Corner

What story are we reading today, mom?

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 contributor: Dr. Catherine Juillard

AVAS Resident Research Scholarship

Association of VA Surgeons

The Association of VA Surgeons announced the AVAS Resident Research Scholarship, a one-year award (with consideration for a possible extension to a second year) available to general surgical or surgical subspecialty residents with a faculty mentor who has at least a 5/8ths VA appointment. Research proposals in clinical outcomes, health services research, education research, basic science or translational research will be considered. The award is for $25,000 for one year and the winner will be announced at the 2021 AVAS Annual Meeting.

The deadline for applications is December 1, 2020 for the award starting July 1, 2021. vasurgeons@gmail.com and to the Chair of the Research Committee, Dr. Jason S. Gold, at jgold@bwh.harvard.edu.

Café Med: Now Open

Café Med in the CHS is now open and accepting online pre-orders and pick-up options, Monday through Friday, 7 am to 2 pm. https://cafemed.catertrax.com/

"You are invited to participate virtually in the 23rd Annual LA Cancer Challenge 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, October 25, 2020! This is an annual event to fundraise for the Hirshberg Foundation, which provides grant support to a number of projects within and outside of UCLA relating to pancreatic cancer research. This year, our very own interim chair Dr. Hines is the honorary medical chair of the event! Let’s show him our socially distanced support!

I know there have been a lot of important causes and requests for contributions over the past months, but please consider registering and joining our team, “UCLA Health Sciences,” HERE! If you’d rather not participate, please still join our cause and donate whatever you can! With the recent passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg from complications of pancreatic cancer, it is unfortunately clear that there is still more work yet to be done in this field.

The registration fee is $40, and the event takes place wherever you are, whether it be your neighborhood or treadmill. It’s perfect for runners, walkers, and the whole family! More information on the virtual event can be found here. Please contact lye@mednet.ucla.edu with any questions."

Thank you!!
Linda Ye
Resident Physician, PGY-4

American Medical Women’s Association

Empowering Women & Improving Health Care Since 1915

American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) is currently recruiting faculty, resident, and fellow mentors to participate in their mentoring program for female-identifying medical students. If interested, please fill out this google form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfL9fFjNzWixOdN90TjUsev62c11MzlT7emC7PMRb99xzPhw/viewform
Community Site Spotlight: Encino

UCLA Health Encino Primary & Specialty Care office is located at 15503 Ventura Blvd, Suite 350, 170, & 150, 240 (Surgery) Encino, CA 91436. Their hours are: Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. Faculty who primarily work from this site include Dr. Philip Biderman (General Surgery), Dr. Jaco H. Festekjian (Plastic Surgery), Dr. Sarah Matrisciano Gilyard (General Surgery), and Dr. Michael W. Robinson II (General Surgery).

Meet Dr. Michael W. Robinson II

Favorite quote, motto, or advice.
"True character is how you act when no one is watching"
- My Uncle Raymond

What is a typical day for you?
It depends on the day! We generally have full clinic on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, full inpatient operative day on Tuesdays, outpatient and/or robotic days on Fridays. And of course, we take call throughout the week. I generally take General Surgery call at Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital and Providence St. Joseph’s.

How did you come to be associated with UCLA?
I've been at UCLA since 2013. I can remember match day and receiving a phone call from the then-program director Dr. Hines. Life-changing moment. Six years later, I was recruited back to UCLA during my board certification exam in Philadelphia by Dr. Hines. Again, a life-changing moment. Now, I’m happy to pioneer the UCLA community general surgery program along with Drs. Biderman and Gilyard. And it means so much to me that the General Surgery Department prioritizes diversity and acknowledges systemic racism with attempts to combat its existence.

What advice do you have for current residents and prospective residents?
Read an article per day (advice from Dr. Yeh). Learn how to dictate operative notes and discharge summaries as a junior resident. Advocate for your patients. And try to attend as many national conferences as you can.

Read more about him here:
https://www.uclahealth.org/michael-robinson

Meet Dr. Sarah Matrisciano Gilyard

Tell us about yourself.
While I am a native Californian from UCSB to UCSD to Kaiser Permanente LAMC for general surgery residency, I am new to UCLA and I am thrilled to be a part of the community.

Favorite quote, motto, or advice.
One of my favorite quotes is one from Maya Angelou: “Be a rainbow in somebody else’s cloud.”

What advice do you have for current residents and prospective residents?
As for advice for current or prospective residents, I would say through the ups and downs of training, don’t lose sight of why you became a physician. Remember you are seeing each patient often in their most vulnerable of times. Take a breath before entering each room, stay empathetic, stay kind.

Read more about here here:
https://www.uclahealth.org/sarah-gilyard
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was one of only 14 academic medical centers (from 100 academic medical centers across the country) in the 2020 Vizient Quality and Accountability Scorecard to achieve Best Performer Status and a five star ranking.
Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was in the top 13 and Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center was in the top 20. The Quality and Accountability Scorecard assesses a hospital’s performance in six areas: safety, mortality, clinical effectiveness, efficiency, patient centeredness and equity.

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

Wed, Nov 18: Virtual General Surgery Interviews
Wed, Dec 2: Virtual General Surgery Interviews
Wed, Dec 16: Virtual General Surgery Interviews
Fri, Mar 19: Match Day

Wednesday Conferences

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<th>Oct 7</th>
<th>Wellness Activity</th>
<th>No Conferences</th>
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| Oct 14 | “Mesenteric Ischemia” | **Juan Carlos Jimenez, MD, MBA**
Division of Vascular Surgery
David Geffen School of Medicine
UCLA |
| Oct 14 7 am | Zoom | **Sigrid Burruss, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of Surgical Critical Care
Loma Linda University School of Medicine |
| Oct 21 | “Pelvic Fractures” | **Juan Carlos Jimenez, MD, MBA**
Dr. Saleh Salehmoghaddam: Annual Lectureship
“Bias at the Bedside: A Conversation of Educators”
| Oct 28 8 am | Zoom | Moderator:
**Juan Carlos Jimenez, MD, MBA**
Panelists:
Christina Harris, MD
Faysal Saab, MD
Medell Briggs-Malonson, MD, MPH
Vincent Rowe, MD
Daniel Kozman, MD, MPH |

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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

Constructed by Andrea Mclean

“A champion is someone who gets up when he can’t.”

Jack Dempsey (1895-1983)