Kudos

Congratulations to Eric Kuo for matching at Columbia University’s Endocrine Surgery Fellowship! Eric follows the footsteps of previous UCLA alumni including Dr. Livhits, Dr. Wu, and Dr. Shirali.

Joseph Hadaya has been awarded the Specialty Training and Advanced Research (STAR) Award from the Department of Medicine and Division of Cardiology. This award provides him with career mentorship, seminars, and the opportunity to pursue a PhD degree during his specialty training.


Residency News

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

Timothy Domahsue, MD
General Surgery Residency Program Director

Vatche Agopian, MD
General Surgery Residency Associate Program Director

Amanda Davis
Kent Garber
Tara Russell

Chief Residents

Questions?
Contact one of our lab residents Rivka at rivka@mednet.ucla.edu

Welcome Stephanie Margolin!

Stephanie is our new Division Administrator for Transplant and Oncologic Surgery.
Dr. Richard Shemin will be inducted into the ACS Academy of Master Surgeon Educators

Dr. Shemin will become a member of the Academy of Master Surgeon Educators. The virtual Induction Ceremony will occur on Friday, September 25, from 3 to 5 pm Central Time. The Academy has been charged to identify and recruit innovators and thought leaders committed to education and to translate innovation into action. “Members of the Academy are selected through a rigorous peer-review process and induction into this prestigious academy is a high honor.”

https://www.facs.org/education/academy/about

Dr. Rochelle Dicker on her new grant and for being a trailblazer for Women in Health Care

Dr. Dicker has received a grant award for her research titled “UNITE Understanding the links between social determinants and firearm violence in California communities” from the UC Firearm Violence Research Center (UCFC) Primary Grant Award Program. UCFC funds research to explore the causes of firearm violence and evaluate strategies and interventions to reduce firearm violence. In addition, Dr. Dicker was recently recognized by UCLA as one of the 100 trailblazers for Women’s Equality Day.

Dr. Chia Soo receives NIH R01 Grant

Dr. Soo, Vice Chair for Research in Plastic Surgery, has received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 grant entitled “Dual Roles of Nell-1 in Craniofacial Bones and Brain Through Interaction with Cntnap4.” This is the third R01 that Dr. Soo has received as the PI. Her research area focuses on hard and soft tissue regenerative medicine utilizing tissue and engineering technologies.

Breast Didactic Lecture Series with Dr. Maggie DiNome Begins in September

Dr. DiNome has created a didactic lecture series for the SSO (Society of Surgical Oncology) Breast Fellow, which will run annually from September to June. Lectures will be held via Zoom. This course will greatly benefit general surgery residents who have an interest in this specialty. You can view the schedule here: https://bit.ly/33t1MSS. Classes will take place on the second and fourth Monday of each month starting September 14 and September 28.

Zoom Link for 2nd Monday of the Month
https://uclahs.zoom.us/j/97264109545?pwd=L3gvb0ZJYlFHM1dBME04Mkl0Rm1mdz09
Meeting ID: 972 6410 9545
Password: Breast

Zoom Link for 4th Monday of the Month
https://uclahs.zoom.us/j/95439996541?pwd=R1owNlBEVhFNGhkcjFLK2ZacUR2UT09
Meeting ID: 954 3999 6541
Password: Breast

Dr. Formosa Chen: An Educator for Excellence

DGSOM Educators for Excellence is a cadre of 30 accomplished and dedicated faculty teachers with expertise in small group facilitation and an outstanding record of accomplishment of exceptional teaching. Dr. Chen has been selected to join this exclusive group of educators. This program will be a transformative new element in our medical student education program.
**Weekly Virtual Research Lab Sessions with Drs. Gibbons and Russell**

Drs. Marcia Russell and Melinda Gibbons have been running weekly virtual research lab sessions for the past 10 weeks during this new normal of the COVID pandemic. Meetings provide an opportunity to discuss research topics, brainstorm on new ideas, present preliminary research results, review abstracts, and discuss diverse methodologies. General research mentoring happens as well. Research fellows, medical students, and some of our junior faculty have participated, and our group keeps growing! Cross-collaborations have been fostered. This past session Ivy practiced her upcoming talk titled, “Multi-institutional Virtual Mock Oral Examinations for General Surgery Residents in the Era of COVID-19,” which she is giving remotely at the Association for Surgical Education’s 2020 Annual Meeting Virtual Highlights in September. Thanks to Rivtka Shenoy for helping organize this ongoing activity.

**Congratulations Dr. Penichet!**

Manuel L. Penichet, M.D., Ph.D. was awarded a $624,000 grant for the project entitled “A Novel Antibody-Based Therapy Against Multiple Myeloma” by the USA Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (DOD-CDMRP). Dr. Penichet is a Professor in the Departments of Surgery, Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics. He earned his medical degree and Ph.D. degree at Havana Advanced Institute of Medical Sciences. Since 1996, Dr. Penichet has worked at UCLA in the fields of immunology, immunotherapy, antibody engineering, and nanotechnology, focusing on cancer research.
A Message from Dr. Joe Hines

“First, I want to thank you for your continued dedication and perseverance as a front line staff and essential worker during the COVID-19 pandemic. As the national infections continue to rise, I want to take the time to remind you of the importance of doing our part to slow the spread of the virus. You should continue to practice social distancing by maintaining 6 feet of physical distance from another person that does not live in your household, to flatten the curve of the spread of the virus. When using an elevator, there should always be no more than four persons. Consider using the stairs as an alternate option. You should properly wear a mask all day both outdoors and indoors when in the hospital, clinics, and the ORs and of course, wash or gel your hands often. It is sometimes difficult to socially distance while in patient care areas so please remain vigilant - our patients, families, and friends are counting on us. For more information: COVID-19 Call Center at (310) 267-3300.”

O. Joe Hines, MD
Interim Chair, Department of Surgery

This year’s virtual Light the Night provides an opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate, honor and remember those touched by cancer, while staying healthy and safe. Together, we can continue to bring light to the darkness of cancer.

The fundraising goal of $75,000 will benefit LLS, which has provided UCLA’s Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center with $815,000 in research grants and $682,000 in support of UCLA Health patients over the past three years. To become a team captain, walker, or to donate visit https://pages.lls.org/lttn/calso/lawalk20/uclahealth . To learn more about event, visit: https://www.lightthenight.org/

The Mobile ECMO Transport Service is on the move!
The UCLA ECMO transport team led by Dr. Peyman Benharash is ready for deployment 24/7 to safely transport patients who may need ECMO, are already on ECMO, or require treatment initiation at outside facilities within geographic limits.
Supporting UCLA Faculty in Advancing Global Health Research

The DGSOM Global Health Program (GHP), in collaboration with International Health Services, announced the second year of the Global Health Seed Grant Program. The primary goals of this program are to: (1) support multidisciplinary teams of faculty from across schools and departments to perform research in low- and middle-income countries; (2) establish or further build global research partnerships that address pressing health questions; and (3) build the capacity of early career researchers at both UCLA and global partner sites. They anticipate rewarding two grants, up to $50,000 per grant, for a period of one year (June 2021-June 2022). Letters of Intent are due to Rachel Abbott, Global Health Program Coordinator (REAbbott@mednet.ucla.edu) by Friday, October 2, 2020. Learn more here: https://worldhealth.med.ucla.edu/pages/seed-grant

Women in Medicine Summit 2020: Let's Get Virtual!

This summit is from October 9 – 10, 2020. It is a conference designed to amplify the lives of women in medicine and work towards gender parity in healthcare through skills development, action plans, advocacy, professional growth, education, and inspiration. Register here: https://rb.gy/ynzshr

Alumni Faculty Spotlight

Modern therapeutic approaches for the treatment of malignant liver tumours

Henrik Petrowsky, Ralph Fritsoh, Matthias Guckenberger, Michelle L. De Oliveira, Philipp Dutkowski & Pierre-Alain Claveli

Nature Reviews Gastroenterology & Hepatology (2020) | Cite this article

During his tenure at UCLA, Dr. Henrik Petrowsky worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor, attending faculty surgeon and Assistant Professor in-residence at the UCLA Transplant Center. He recently first authored an excellent review in Nature Reviews Gastroenterology and Hepatology. The review focuses on surgical management of liver malignancies and touches on other locoregional treatment modalities that can be used in conjunction with surgery. Click here for a quick and fruitful read: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41575-020-0314-8

How to Become an Anti-Racist Educator: A Workshop

The Center for Education Innovation & Learning in the Sciences (CEILS) is excited to welcome all UCLA faculty, instructors, and staff to participate. The premise for this workshop is to examine one’s own racial identity development as a way to prepare for teaching equitably and inclusively. Concepts and techniques used in this workshop are drawn from a variety of experts including the Academics for Black Survival and Wellness training and UCLA’s Intergroup Dialogue Program. The sessions initially take place September 1 and September 3, but will be repeated the week of September 14 (Day and time TBD). You can register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeB4XHoCUk09T1mF6FdyG1c4NoDR2B8aF_gb0FCrsC0buRPg/viewform

UCLA Health now recommends the use of eye protection (in addition to a facemask) in clinical and non-clinical areas where physical distancing is not possible.
Welcome to the Cuteness Corner

Homemade cookies were distributed to residents who were willing to move their call schedule around to accommodate changes. Thank you for your flexibility.

Introducing... Mrs. Kierra Blair and Mr. Kevin J Blair! KJ’s co-residents were able to tune in to the wedding ceremony remotely via Zoom. Best wishes on this wonderful journey, as you build your new lives together.

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: KJ Blair

You are cordially invited to attend the

Gold Humanism Honor Society
2020 Medical Student Induction Ceremony
of the
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Chapter

Livestream
Friday, September 4, 2020
6:00 pm

https://uclahs.fyi/GHHS

Road to Residency at UCLA: A URM Residency Open House

Presented by the UCLA Office of Graduate Medical Education and DGSOM Office of Equity and Diversity Inclusion, this conference will take place on September 12, 2020. We are recruiting faculty to participate in the program director panel and the faculty and house staff networking portion of the event. If interested, please reach out to Dr. Juan Carlos Jimenez.

This year’s keynote speaker is Dr. Medell Briggs-Malonson, MD, MPH, MSHS, Acting Chief, Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for the UCLA Hospital & Clinic System. Dr. Briggs-Malonson also serves as Medical Director of Clinical Effectiveness, Director of Quality, and Assistant Clinical Professor for the UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine.
“For a seed to achieve its greatest expression, it must come completely undone. The shell cracks, its insides come out and everything changes. To someone who doesn’t understand growth, it would look like complete destruction.”

Cynthia Occelli

2020-21 Upcoming Events (dates are subject to change)
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
Fri, Mar 19: Match Day

Wednesday Conferences

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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| Sept 2  | Combined Medicine-Surgery Grand Rounds | Omai Garder, MD  
Prof of Pathology & Lab Medicine DGSOM  
Tara Vijayan, MD  
Associate Prof of Medicine Div. of Infectious Disease, DGSOM |
| 8 am    |            |            |
| Zoom    |            |            |
| Sept 9  | No Conferences | Skills Training for Residents |
| Sept 16 | “Colon and Rectal Cancer” | Kevork Kazanjian, MD  
Associate Professor of Surgery Chief, Section of Colon and Rectal Surgery, DGSOM |
| 7 am    |            |            |
| Zoom    |            |            |
| Sept 23 | Surgery Department Faculty Town Hall | O. Joe Hines, MD, FACS, DABS  
Interim Chair, Department of Surgery Professor and Chief, Division of General Surgery, Robert and Kelly Day Chair in General Surgery, DGSOM |
| 7 am    |            |            |
| Zoom    |            |            |
| Sept 30 | Joint Emergency Medicine and Surgery Conferences | David Talan, MD  
Professor, Emergency Medicine DGSOM |
| 7 am    |            |            |
| Zoom    |            |            |

General Surgery residents gathered for a hike in August. Thank you to Tara Russell for coordinating this event. If this inspires you to take a hike, nearby trails include Temescal Gateway Park, Will Rogers State Historic Park, and the Rivas Canyon Trail. Grab your mask and get out there!