OpReport

The quarterly newsletter of the Stanford University General Surgery Residency Program for members, faculty, alumni and friends.

A Quarterly Newsletter

Norton and Chao Win National Awards
Prestigious awards earned by faculty and residents at Stanford

Meet the 2012 Kountz Diversity Fellow
Alexandra Anastasopulos was awarded the fellowship for this upcoming year.

Alumni Profile
In this issue, we highlight Dr. David Yuh ('98).

2012 Vascular Surgery Awards
The best performing residents on the vascular surgery service in the past year.

Intern Welcome Party
Pictures from the get together at the Dutch Goose.

New Residency Track
A 5 year program geared towards residency applicants with advanced experience.

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The 2012-2013 Stanford Department of Surgery Intern Class

Here at Stanford, we have always been extraordinarily proud of the abilities and accomplishments of our faculty, residents and alumni. This could not be better highlighted than in this issue.

The Flance-Karl Award is one of the most prestigious awards in American surgery and we are proud to have the last two recipient with the latest winner being Jeff Norton.

Stephanie Chao was long recognized by us as a star and we are grateful to see it recognized with her being named the winner of the Outstanding Resident Award from the AWS.

Our alumni also continue to make the news as demonstrated by their rise in academic departments around the country. In this issue, we highlight Dr. David Yuh, one of our distinguished alumni who has risen to a leadership role within academic surgery.

It has never been more true that Stanford is home to some the best and brightest in academic American surgery. I hope all of you will take pride in the accomplishments of these individuals as it reflects well on all of us.

For all of our alumni, I hope you take the time to fill out the response sheet on the last page so we can reconnect. Also, please join us if you are in Chicago for the ACS Clinical Congress at the Stanford Reception.

Yours truly,

Tom Krummel, MD
Emile Holman Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
Stanford University School of Medicine

Jeffrey Norton given Flance-Karl Award

Several members of the surgical faculty at Stanford have developed a national reputation for their contributions to surgical science. This was highlighted by the choice of Dr. Jeffrey Norton, the Robert L. and Mary Ellenburg Professor and Division Chief of General Surgery, as the 2012 recipient of the American Surgical Association’s Flance Karl Award. Dr. Norton trained at Duke University and the NCI prior to holding faculty positions at Washington University and the University of California, San Francisco. He was recruited to Stanford in 2003 and was subsequently promoted to become Chief of the Division of General Surgery in 2003. His research focuses on immuno-therapy for cancer treatment. His clinical practice focuses on surgical oncology where he is a nationally respected expert in the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors, pancreatic cancer and intraabdominal sarcomas. In addition to his national honors, Dr. Norton has also received the Stanford Rambar-Mark Award for Clinical Excellence and the John Collins Award for faculty teaching.

The American Surgical Association is the oldest and most prestigious surgical society in the country with its membership comprised of the elite in academic surgery. The ASA gives out the Flance-Karl Award annually to a surgeon who has made seminal contributions in basic science research with applicability to clinical care. Dr. Norton represents the third Stanford surgeon to have won the award. It was previously won by Drs. Norman E. Shumway (1999) and Michael T. Longaker (2011). This represents the first time faculty from a single institution has won the award in consecutive years. More significantly, Stanford is the only surgical department with three awardees; only one other surgical department has more than one.

Our congratulations to Dr. Norton on this singular achievement.

Notable Events

Happenings at Stanford and among our alumni

Lyen Huang and Becky Kim welcome a new baby girl, Sarah Huang-Kim.

Danielle Bertoni gave birth to her new daughter, Ophelia, on July 14.

Mateo Javier Worhunsky, 7 lbs, 14 ozs, was born on August 21 to Dave and Andrea Worhunsky.
Stephanie Chao wins Hilary Sanfey Award

The Stanford Department of Surgery has long been known as a leader in promoting women in surgery. This has been reflected in the selection of Stephanie Chao, currently an administrative chief resident, as the 2012 winner of the Hilary Sanfey Outstanding Resident Award. The award is given by the Association of Women Surgeons to individuals who have demonstrated the potential to be future leaders in surgery.

Stephanie was an undergraduate at Stanford before going to medical school at UCSF. She returned to Stanford for her general surgery residency and will be staying on as a pediatric surgery fellow. As an undergraduate, she was instrumental in helping start up the Jade Ribbon Campaign as part of the Asian Liver Center with Dr. Samuel So. This program was among the first in the nation to address the insidious problem of hepatitis B within the Asian population here in the US and abroad. It has raised awareness in affected populations of the health risks associated with infection, including hepatocellular carcinoma, and of the need for aggressive vaccination programs to stem its spread. She would also found the Hep B Moms program aimed at teaching mothers about the value of vaccination. Her work has already led to multiple grants to support this clinical effort, and she is a member on a number of local and national committees devoted to addressing the problem. Her work has also earned her the Samuel L. Kountz Humanitarian Award in Surgery.

Stephanie represents the third Stanford resident to win this award. It was previously won by Drs. Leora Balsam (2005) and Maureen Tedesco (2011). In the history of this award, Stanford women have won this more than any other training program in the country. As with the Flance-Karl Award to Dr. Jeffrey Norton, this also represents the first time that consecutive awards have been given to the same institution.

Please congratulate Stephanie on this tremendous accomplishment.

2012 Samuel L. Kountz Diversity Fellow

Alexandra Anastasopulos grew up in Buenos Aires, Argentina before moving to the Los Angeles area after high school. She began her studies at Los Angeles City College before going on to the University of California, San Diego where she excelled and would graduated magna cum laude with election to Phi Beta Kappa. She earned a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship and used it to study mother-child transmission of HIV in Uruguay. She would go on to medical school at Harvard Medical School from which she will graduate in 2013.

Alexandra’s goal is to become an academic surgeon with a focus on global health issues. She will begin her fellowship at Stanford in November. Please give her a warm welcome when you see her.

Dr. Samuel L. Kountz (1930-1981) completed his residency at Stanford in 1965 after being the first black to graduate from the University of Arkansas, and had a stellar career in organ transplantation. He performed the first non-twin kidney transplant with Dr. Roy Cohn at Stanford. He would rise to be Chair at SUNY-Downstate before his untimely death. Among his honors were the Presidency of the SUS, the Fulbright Award and honorary degrees from the University of Arkansas, Howard University and UCSF. The NAACP awards a high school science prize annually in his name.
Alumni Profile

Dr. David Yuh ('98)

We will profile former alumni of the Stanford General Surgery Residency to bring you up to date on prominent graduates.

In this issue, we present Dr. David Yuh, the chief of cardiac surgery at Yale University. Dr. Yuh was at Stanford long before residency. He obtained his BS and MD here on the Farm prior to surgical residency. In 1991, he began his residency at the University of Minnesota. He would return to Stanford to work in the laboratory of the current Chair of Cardiac Surgery, Dr. Robert Robbins, because of his interests in cardiac transplantation.

Seeing the error of his ways, Dr. Yuh transferred back to Stanford and completed his general surgical residency in 1998. During his chief residency year, he was voted the winner of the John Henry Smith Award by his fellow residents. He stayed for the cardiac surgery fellowship from which he would graduate in 2001.

Dr. Yuh’s first faculty position would be as an Assistant Professor at the Johns Hopkins Medical School where he was recruited by another illustrious Stanford alumni, Dr. William Baumgartner ('81). He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2005. While at Hopkins, he also became Director of the Cardiac Surgical Research and Cardiac Surgical Robotics programs. He was instrumental in introducing minimally invasive cardiac surgical techniques at Hopkins.

In 2011, Dr. Yuh was recruited to the Yale University School of Medicine to become Professor and Chief of Cardiac Surgery and Director of Yale-New Haven Hospital Heart and Vascular Center. His current research work focuses on surgical robotics and computational modeling of cardiac structures., and has been funded by the NIH and the NSF.

It was also while he was at Stanford that he would meet his wife, Dr. Bonnie Hiatt. She trained in internal medicine at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston prior to coming to Stanford for her fellowship in cardiology and interventional cardiology. They have two twin children, Natalie and Christopher, who are now 4 years old.

2012 Vascular Surgery Service Awards

Each year, the Division of Vascular Surgery gives an award to the best resident at each PGY level who rotates on the service.

Best Vascular Intern
Tanya Rinderknecht

Best Vascular PGY2
Sarah Bishop

Best Vascular PGY3
Carlos Pineda
Intern Welcome Party

The chief residents hosted a get together for the new interns at the Dutch Goose.

1 Danielle Pickham and Stephanie Chao
2 Osita Omugha and Greg Magee
3 Danielle Pickham and her daughter
4 Blake Read
5 Ben Colvard, Michael Davenport, Kristine Rustad, Amelia Clark, Jessica Ryu, and Peter Chiu
6 Blake Read and Micaela Esquivel
The Greg Feldman Residency Balance in Life Program

Please take the time to support resident well-being.

Balance in Life is a program that encompasses physical as well as psychological well-being. It also addresses issues like team building, belonging, and mentoring. The goal of Balance in Life is to give residents the coping skills they will be able to use throughout their career in surgery. Donations to the program help to fund maintenance of a residents’ lounge, and activities meant to build comradery.

For donations by check, please send to: Stephanie Edelman, Department of Surgery, Stanford Medical Center, 300 Pasteur Dr., Rm M-121, Stanford, CA 94305-2200.
Phone (650) 725-6493, sedelman@stanford.edu

Or, visit the Stanford University Department of Surgery web site to donate online:
http://surgery.stanford.edu/

New General Surgery Residency Track

A new track for residents with advanced training.

Stanford attracts residents with significant academic accomplishments prior to starting residency. Recognizing the prolonged path to an independent academician, we initiated the Stanford Accelerated Surgeon Scientist (SASS) Track this year. Residents in this track will perform 5 years of clinical training without Professional Development time.

The program will seek applicants who have made significant contributions to a scientific field (clinical or basic) and is interested in a career directed primarily in research. SASS track residents will be assigned both clinical and research mentors to help guide their careers. Candidates that are competitive for this position would include those that have previously earned a PhD and successfully published their work. Contact the program director, Dr. Marc Melcher at melcherm@stanford.edu for more details.

2012 American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress
Stanford Department of Surgery Cocktail Reception

Once again, the Stanford Department of Surgery will be well-represented at the 98th ACS Clinical Congress with multiple faculty and residents presenting at or moderating sessions. Residents, faculty, alumni and all of those attending with ties to Stanford are invited to come join us for a celebratory event. RSVPs are not needed. Please contact Gail Christie via email at gchristie@stanford.edu for questions.

Monday, October 1, 2012
6:00 to 8:00 PM

Water Tower Room
Hyatt Regency Chicago - Magnificent Mile
151 E. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL
Stanford Residency Alumni

We take this opportunity to ask you to reengage with the place where you trained. The Stanford Department of Surgery has a long, rich heritage of which you are an important part. Please take the time to fill out the response form below to let us know where you are now and how you are doing. Send the form via mail, or fax to:

Stanford Surgery Training Program
H3691
300 Pasteur Dr.
Stanford, CA 94305
FAX: 650-724-9806

Last name:
Maiden name (if applicable):
First name:
Home address:

Work address:

Email address:

Year of residency completion:
Current practice or position: