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

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The 2013-2014 Stanford Department of Surgery Intern Class


Another Academic Year

The start of the academic year always bring a fresh energy to the department as new faces take their place in the department. In addition to the new residents, we also have a number of new fellows. In this issue, we introduce some of the new fellows at Stanford. You will see some new and familiar faces as past chiefs, Monica Dua and Stephanie Chao continue their training with us.

With the coming of the fall, we will also begin another cycle of recruitment for the next year’s incoming residency class. As always, we have an embarrassment of riches as there are many more qualified applicants than positions. I urge all of our residents and faculty to take the time to meet the new applicants, make them feel welcome, and show them what we are all about. As in previous years, there will be an evening reception the day before the interviews where applicants will have a chance to meet informally with residents and faculty. Take the time to show these highly select applicants why Stanford Surgery is such a special place to train.

Finally, with the new academic year also comes a new slate of interesting and thought-provoking talks in our Grand Rounds. I want to urge all members of the department to come to these state of the art talks given by expert faculty in their field. In addition, be on the lookout for announcements detailing the special speakers we will have for our named lectureships coming up. I look forward to seeing everyone at these talks.

Yours truly,

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

Luis Godoy selected as this year’s Kountz Fellow

It is with great pleasure that the Department of Surgery announces the winner of this year’s Samuel Kountz Diversity Fellowship. He is Luis Godoy, currently a fourth year medical student at the University of California, Davis School of Medicine.

Luis was born in Michoacan, Mexico and immigrated to this country as a young boy. He grew up working on the farms of California picking and cutting fruit. He has taken a route to medical school that has included stints as a car mechanic, X-ray technician, and medical assistant.

During medical school, he has been heavily involved in community service and outreach. He was the co-founder of the Knight’s Landing Community Clinic serving disadvantaged Latinos in the Sacramento area, and Lab Operations Officer of the Clinica Tepati, a similar clinic also in the Sacramento area. These represent just a fraction of the community service projects he was involved in.

Luis’s work ethic and passion for caring for the underserved earned him induction into the Gold Humanism Honor Society and the Outstanding Leadership Award given by the UC Davis School of Medicine.

Luis has been consistently lauded for his work ethic, professionalism, and clinical maturity. Currently, his interests are to pursue additional training in trauma and critical care medicine at the completion of his general surgery residency.

Luis will be rotating through the Stanford surgical services this fall. Please give him a warm welcome when you see him.

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.

Notable Events

Happenings at Stanford and among our alumni

Kevin Helling married Cori Bodley on July 5.

Jon Gerry and his wife, Arianna, welcomed their new son, Luke Mitchell Gerry, on July 8, 2013. He came into the world weighing 7 lbs, 11 oz.
A number of faculty and residents participated in intern boot camp to get them primed for the year:
1. Tom Weiser describes the basics of chest tubes
2. Natalie Kirilcuk monitors Julia Noel’s progress
3. Kristen Rumer on the laparoscopic simulator
4. Adam Sang inserting a chest tube with a skeptical Ron Jou looking on
5. Comparing notes on the day
6. Lunch break
7. Dana Lin explaining the ultrasound module
8. Maureen Tedesco guides Rachel Yang on inserting a central line into a chicken
9. Julia Park explaining proper technique
10. Ashley Aratani tubes up the chicken
Meet the Clinical Instructors

**In addition to a new group of residents, each July also brings a new group of clinical instructors in various specialties for advanced training.**

**Breast**
Nicole Choy, MD

Nicole is a Bay Area native, born in San Mateo. She got her MD in 2008 from Drexel University College of Medicine and completed her residency this past June at the Lankenau Medical Center in Wynnewood, PA. Her husband’s name is Carl Allen Bernas, they have a 6mo old baby girl named Abigail. She enjoys hiking, cooking, traveling and dancing in her spare time.

**Hepatopancreaticobiliary**
Monica Dua, MD

Monica is well-known to the Stanford surgery community. She earned her MD at Drexel University College of Medicine and started her residency at UCSF-East Bay before transferring to Stanford. She would complete her residency at Stanford serving as Administrative Chief Resident before a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.

**MIS-Stanford**
Michael Russo, MD

Michael completed his undergraduate degree in biomedical engineering from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. He would go on to get his MD from the University of Toledo College of Medicine, and perform his general surgery residency at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. He is married with two dogs and enjoys cooking, fine dining and exploring the bay area.

**MIS-VA**
Nathan Hansen, MD

Nathan has spent the decade in Hershey, PA where he went to medical school at the Penn State College of Medicine followed by residency at the same institution. He is married with 3 kids, Connor (age 11), Kaitlyn (age 8), and Zachary (age 2). Outside of medicine, he enjoys swimming, hiking, basketball and football.

**Pediatric**
Stephanie Chao, MD

Stephanie has been around Stanford longer than most of the faculty by now. She was here for undergraduate before a short time away at UCSF for medical school. She returned for residency and was one of last year’s Administrative Chief Residents.

**Transplant**
Jennifer Berumen, MD

Jennifer is originally from Arkansas and has family scattered from the Midwest to Saudi Arabia. She did her undergraduate work at Tulane University and would stay there for medical school. She did her general surgery residency at the University of California, San Diego. She is now in her second year of her transplant fellowship.

**Vascular**
Brant Ullery, MD

Brant comes to Stanford from the East Coast. He graduated from medical school at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City followed by his general surgery residency at the University of Pennsylvania. He moves out here with his wife, Kelly, and baby girl, Emerson.

**Elyssa Feinberg, MD**

Elyssa completed her residency in General Surgery at the Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY. There she was awarded the distinct honor of being inducted into the Leo M. Davidoff Society for her significant contribution to the education of students at the College of Medicine. She is currently in her second year at Stanford University.

**Tyuyoshi Todo, MD**

Tsuyoshi was born in Fukuoka, Japan and grew up in Pittsburgh, PA. He attended the University of Chicago as an undergraduate and earned his Master’s degree in Physiology and Medical Degree from Georgetown University. He recently completed his General Surgery Residency and 2 year research fellowship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Dr. Todo began his Fellowship in Abdominal Organ Transplantation in July of 2013.
Alumni Profile
Dr. Dev Desai ('01)

Dr. Dev M. Desai was born in Bulsar, India where he spent the first couple of years of his life prior to immigrating to the United States. He would grow up in New Jersey prior to moving to Houston, TX. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Texas at Austin and would go to the University of California, San Francisco in their MSTP Program.

Dr. Desai would earn his PhD in immunology with Dr. Art Weiss, a Member of the National Academy of Sciences publishing papers in Cell, Nature and EMBO J. Following his MD, PhD, he would come to Stanford for his general surgery residency. He graduated in 2001 and served as the Administrative Chief Resident. He was also a winner of the John Henry Smith Award for the most admired surgical resident.

At the completion of his surgical residency, he stayed to do his fellowship in transplantation with Dr. Carlos Esquivel here at Stanford. At the completion of fellowship, he took his first faculty position at Duke University.

Dr. Desai was recruited from Duke to the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas to become Surgical Director of Visceral Transplantation at the Children’s Medical Center in Dallas where he is currently.

Dr. Desai is now nationally known for his work in pediatric transplantation. He is also prominent in national surgical societies having served as Chair of the Publications Committee, Councilor, and Chair of the Scholarships Committee of the Society of University Surgeons.

He met his wife, Manisha, in high school and they have been married for over 20 years. He is equally devoted to his two children, Maya (age 11) and Drewv (age 9), both of whom were born at Stanford Hospital. His work at the Children’s Medical Center in Dallas has also been recently profiled in the television documentary series, “Children’s Med - Dallas.”

Paul Maggio wins award for care

Dr. Paul Maggio, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Co-Director of Critical Care Medicine, and lead architect of the adult ECMO program at Stanford was awarded Denise O’Leary Compassionate Care Award from the Board of Trustees of the Stanford Hospital and Clinics. Dr. Maggio was selected from over 900 physicians practicing at Stanford Hospital for this prestigious award. He was recognized for both his clinical expertise and for his kind and gracious bedside manner. His example is an important one for all attendings and residents in the Department of Surgery. Please give your congratulations to Dr. Maggio for this impressive accomplishment.
Intern Welcome Party

The new interns meet the chiefs at the Dutch Goose.

1 Tiffany Sinclair, David Schoppy and Rachel Yang
2 David Spain wondering how to toilet train this intern
3 Carlos Pineda and Clifford Sheckter
4 Motaz Qadan and Osita Onugha
5 Cindy Kin, Shushmita Ahmed and Clem Marshall
6 Ashley Black, Jeremy Kim, Rachel Yang and Tiffany Sinclair
7 Jim Lau incredulous that Carlos Pineda is now a chief
8 Motaz Qadan and Carlos Pineda
9 Welcome to Silicon Valley, Google Glass gets a thumbs up from David Schoppy, Rustin Massoudi, David Greenwald, and Kai Dallas
Surgeons from Stanford traveled to Nuevo Progreso, Guatemala to provide care to the local population. Residents Grace Chiou and Geoff Krampitz worked with George Yang ('01) and Russell Woo ('07), now a pediatric surgeon at the University of Hawaii.

1: Geoff Krampitz and Russ Woo do a pediatric hernia
2: Grace Chiou and Russ Woo on a walk in the area
3: George Yang and Grace Chiou starting a cholecystectomy
4: Geoff Krampitz learns how to be a scrub tech
5: Geoff Krampitz getting rehydrated after a GI bug swept through the team
6: Enjoying her post-op meal of beans
7: Local girls of Nuevo Progreso
8: Grace Chiou and Geoff Krampitz do a case together
9: Russ Woo and Grace Chiou on morning rounds
10: George Yang, Geoff Krampitz, Russ Woo and Grace Chiou
The Stanford Resident International Travel Fund

Over the years, Stanford residents have benefitted from the chance to travel to Haiti, Rwanda, and Guatemala to do international work. With the advent of the new international surgery rotation in Zimbabwe, we now have a formal experience in global surgery for those residents who want it. These are expensive trips, and have been supported in the past by the Department and individual donors. In order to support these invaluable experiences for our residents, we are raising a fund to help support their travel expenses. We think this is a vitally important feature of our residency, and a major attraction for future residents. Please support this fund in any way you can to support the educational mission of the department. Proceeds will go entirely towards supporting resident international travel.

Donations should be designated to the “Stanford Resident International Travel Fund,” and can be made online at the Department of Surgery web site or sent to: Stephanie Edelman, Dept. of Surgery, Stanford Medical Center, 300 Pasteur Dr., Rm M-121, Stanford, CA 94305-2200. Phone (650) 725-6493, sedelman@stanford.edu

Joe Forrester joins the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service

Joe Forrester chose to spend his professional development years with the CDC, pursuing his interests in infectious diseases. He is shown above in his pinning ceremony saluting Surgeon General Boris Lushniak in a pose typically unfamiliar to him.
From the Program Director

Once again, we begin the process of selecting the next year’s incoming class of general surgery residents. This year, we have the difficult choice of selecting from over 540 highly qualified applicants for 6 spots.

This will be the second year that we are offering the Stanford Accelerated Surgeon Scientist Track for top medical school graduates who have made significant contributions to a scientific field. Candidates competitive for this position include those that have previously earned a PhD and successfully published their work. Many outstanding applicants have already shown interest in this track, and other programs have shown interest in emulating us.

One of our big initiatives this year will be to adopt the General Surgery Milestones Project. The outcomes based Milestones will provide a new framework for the assessment of the development of our residents. Not only will our Departmental Meeting on November 19th be dedicated to introducing the Milestones to the residents and faculty, but we will also use our Education Retreat this spring to discuss its implementation.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the General Surgery Residency Program.

Marc L. Melcher, MD, PhD
Program Director
General Surgery Residency
Stanford University

Notable Publications

The following selected peer-reviewed publications were authored by Stanford surgeons as noted in bold.


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: