



OpReport

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

A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1 Summer, 2012

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On June 15, 2012, we welcomed another group of members to the alumni of the Stanford University Department of Surgery Residency program. From left to right, the newest alumni are Drs. Danielle

Bertoni, Ron Jou, Hari Thangarajah, Monica Dua, Richard Parent, and Ellen Morrow. The graduation dinner was held at the Palo Alto Hills Country Club and followed Resident Appreciation

Day where all of the residents got a day off in honor of their hard work during the year. All of our chiefs will be starting new fellowships shortly. Find out more about them in the following pages.

WELCOME

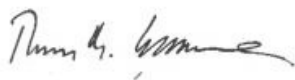
I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all residents, alumni and friends of the Stanford University General Surgery Residency Program to our new quarterly newsletter. In its pages, we look forward to keeping you up to date on the people in the department, the goings on, and the accomplishments of our residents, faculty and alumni.

I am extraordinarily proud of the how well all of the members of the Stanford Surgery family have done, and I hope you find this newsletter to be a valuable resource to keep you up to date with events on the Farm.

In its pages, we will highlight individuals affiliated with the department so we can all share in their accomplishments. To that end, I urge all of our alumni to fill out the reply form to let us know how you are doing and what you are up to. We look forward to hearing from you and having you reconnect with Stanford.

The Department of Surgery has never been stronger than it is now. We have a truly world-class faculty and a highly select group of residents. Our alumni are in prominent positions throughout the country and in all endeavors of surgery. We hope you like what you read here and will use this as an opportunity to reengage with Stanford.

Yours truly,



Tom Krummel, MD

Emile Holman Professor and Chair

Department of Surgery

Stanford University School of Medicine

Meet the Incoming Residents

Every year, we welcome a new group of residents into our program. Take this opportunity to read a little bit about them and make sure you welcome them to the Farm when you see them.

Joy Chen, MD - Case Western Reserve University.



I was born in Indianapolis, IN and grew up in Foster City, CA. I went to Stanford University where I studied biology. After college and graduate school I moved to San Francisco and worked at UCSF doing research. I attended medical school at

Case Western Reserve University where I discovered my interest in surgery. I love art, live music and the photography of fisherman Corey Arnold. I am very excited to return to Stanford for surgery residency and look forward to running, baking, barbecues and concerts on the side.

Micaela Esquivel, MD - University of New Mexico.



Micaela Esquivel was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico to Tony and Geraldine Esquivel and is the third of four girls, Maria, Milinda and Marisa. Micaela attended Santa Clara University and was a four year starter and two year captain of the Women's

Soccer Team. In those years, SCU women's soccer never lost to Stanford in the NCAA Tournament. Although Micaela intends to support the current Stanford women's soccer powerhouse, she is thankful that SCU and Stanford share the same colors so no one will really know who she is cheering for. She continues to play soccer and enjoys hiking, snowboarding and biking. Micaela has spent time in Cuba learning guitar, and during medical school at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine she participated in a clinical rotation in Brazil and researched HIV/AIDS stigma in Kenya. She embraces diversity and has a passion for international travel and plans to integrate global health into her medical career. Micaela has a commitment to service and intends to participate in

outreach projects throughout residency. A leader and team player all her life, Micaela aspires to put these skills into action and rally her intern class to make a music video to compete with the likes of 'Stanford Surg'ry Gurlz' starring The Lady Chiefs of 2011.

Jeffrey Jopling, MD - Emory University.



I grew up in Sandy, Utah with my parents and younger sister. Living just minutes from the base of two large canyons made it easy to develop a love for the outdoors. From preschool through 12th grade I attended the same small school. Its strong

liberal arts ethos and tight community helped engender some of my most valued character traits: curiosity, discipline and service. This foundation helped push me to take advantage of opportunities to immerse myself in other cultures and landscapes, and after high school I moved across the country to Pennsylvania to attend Haverford College. There I continued my education in molecular biology, Japanese, and philosophy while spending the rest of my time playing varsity lacrosse. Post college graduation I moved to Utah where I got involved in a diverse set of ventures, including starting a house remodeling business and designing a law school course on negotiation and conflict resolution. It was while working at Intermountain Healthcare, however, that I developed my passions for surgery and research as I discovered the unique intersection of systems engineering and medicine. I have since pursued these interests in the form of an M.D. at Emory and a master's degree in systems engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Stanford stood out to me among all other training programs because of its unique mix of world class medical training, interdisciplinary innovation and service to a global population. I look forward to working hard and becoming a part of this vibrant community.

Hadiza Kazaure, MD - Yale University.



I was born and raised in a semi-urban conservative region of Nigeria, and arrived in the United States about 9 years ago. I do not have any family in this country. I attended Temple University (Philadelphia) where I majored in Biology/Neuroscience, and then Yale medical school where I took a year off to

gain experience in surgical outcomes research. I have deep interest in health services research, global health, surgical education, and inventiveness of whatever variety, especially of the eccentric-creative flavor; I hope to nurture these interests during residency. I am an avid sports fan - the gritty genius of Tiger Woods (think 16th hole of the 2005 Masters) and Roger Federer's ethereal style do not fail to provoke goosebumps. I like running, Bikram yoga, cooking, Bollywood movies, and world music. I have budding interest in bowling and photography; I hope to learn to play chess and the piano some day. I enjoy re-reading the classics in my quiet moments, notably Socrates/Plato, Frithjof Schuon, Khalil Gibran, Gandhi's interpretation of the Bhagavad Gita, and the "entertaining" works of Machiavelli. I look forward to meeting you all.

William Kethman, MD - Tulane University.



I was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana to Desiree and Harold Kethman. My brother, Matthew Kethman is currently studying chemical engineering at Texas A&M University and my sister, Molly Kethman, is an elementary school

teacher in Sulphur, Louisiana. I was raised in Houston, Texas until moving to New Orleans to attend Tulane University for college and medical school. I graduated with a degree in Biomedical Engineering with interests in medical device and software development and global health. I worked for NASA Johnson Space Center with a team of engineers to develop a next generation lunar rover and Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago on the development of neuroprosthetic technology. In addition, I lead a team of engineers to develop SafeSnip, a low-cost, patent-pending umbilical cord clamp and cutter designed to reduce global neonatal mortality. I am currently doing research in oncology and am interested in exploring a career in surgical oncology. Beyond my academic pursuits, I am getting married this May and will be backpacking Costa Rica with my future wife before residency begins. I enjoy scuba diving, photography, running, and golf. I am looking forward to the next few years and am excited to have the opportunity to be a Stanford University General Surgery resident.

Blake Read, MD - Thomas Jefferson University.

Blake grew up in Encinitas, CA as the middle child between two accomplished sisters; his



older sister got her undergraduate and master's degrees from Stanford and is now a United States Diplomat, his younger sister attended UCLA and then Pepperdine for a master's degree prior to teaching middle-school

mathematics. Blake graduated with a degree in English literature from UC Berkeley, where he was also a relief pitcher for four years on the Men's Baseball team. Blake then moved to New York City to pursue his post-baccalaureate pre-medical studies at Columbia University, and then stayed on the East Coast for medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, PA. Blake loves traveling and taking photographs wherever in the world his older sister might be living, deep-sea fishing with his dad, and cooking with his younger sister and mom. He loves camping, sushi, snowboarding, and live music, and considers the Bay Area the best place in the country to indulge this combination of interests. While he does not still play competitive baseball, he has found that he can relive his glory days giving little-leaguers pitching lessons and playing on softball and dodgeball teams alike.

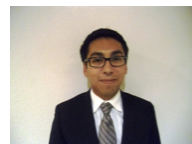
Odmara Barreto-Chang, MD, PhD - Stanford University.



Odmara grew up in Puerto Rico and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez.

After spending a couple of cold winters in Boston, she quickly realized that California was a much better "home away from home" and went on to complete her MD/PhD at Stanford, where she was also involved in transporting fish, squirrel, and human brains in her car to teach middle school kids during brain day. On a sunny California day, you can see her strolling with her husband and two daughters around town and enjoying a nice cup of hot chocolate (Coupa!). In her spare time, Odmara enjoys cooking traditional Caribbean cuisine, Latin dancing, and traveling.

Eric Davalos, MD - Stanford University.



Hi everyone. My name is Eric and I was born and raised in San Diego, CA. The majority of my family still resides there and I enjoy going back home to

see my parents, two younger siblings and our two dogs. I attended UCSB before completing medical school at Stanford. After my surgical internship I will move down to Los Angeles for my radiology training at Harbor-UCLA. In my free time I enjoy sports, both playing and watching, and seeing live music.

John Finneran, MD - University of California, San Diego.



I was born and raised in the Bay Area and attended Archbishop Mitty High School, where I played football, ran track and was involved in student government. I am happy to be coming back there after spending 8 years in San Diego for college and medical school. I like to

spend my free time outdoors and my hobbies include hiking, surfing, paddle boarding, running, watching and playing sports, and weight lifting. In the time between now and the start of internship I will be traveling around Europe with classmates from medical school. I'm very excited about coming to Stanford and meeting my co-interns.

Tiffany Sinclair, MD - University of Pennsylvania.



Dear future colleagues, my name is Tiffany Sinclair and I am very excited to be joining the Stanford University Department of Surgery as a general surgery preliminary intern. I am a graduate of the University of

Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and attended the University of Pittsburgh as an undergraduate. I am originally from the suburbs of Pittsburgh, however, for the last 8 years my mother, sisters, and nephews have lived in Honolulu, HI. I am engaged to my best friend, Nicolai, who I met while at Pitt. He is an attorney in Philadelphia and, unfortunately, is not able to immediately make the move to California with me. We have two kitties, Wampus and Lilly, that we treat like our children. I am an avid reader of fantasy and science fiction novels, and have recently developed an interest in reading about theoretical physics. I am a dancer and regularly take classes for exercise and to maintain my sanity and hope that I can find time during residency to continue. I particularly love the freedom and creativity of modern jazz and I am looking for a good studio in the Palo Alto area! I work hard and



Weesam Alkhatib, MD

1978-2012

Weesam Alkhatib, MD died at his parents' home in Woodland, CA, Saturday April 14th, after a short but valiant battle against recurrent cancer. He was 34 years old. At the time of his death, Dr. Alkhatib served as a faculty vascular surgeon at both Stanford Hospital and Clinics and the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System, and held a Clinical Instructor of Surgery appointment in the Stanford School of Medicine. Dr. Alkhatib received his vascular training at Stanford (2008 – 2010), and prior to that, his general surgery training at the University of Kansas/ Kansas City (2003 – 2008). Weesam attended Kansas State University from 1999-2003, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree Chemical Engineering. While at Kansas State, he won honors and recognition for his performance as a varsity athlete in tennis.

Dr. Alkhatib was an outstanding surgeon, scholar, role model, and friend. In his short but meaningful career, his passion, skill and commitment to his patients were an inspiration to all who knew him. As a fellow, he was relentless in his pursuit of clinical and intellectual excellence. As a faculty member, his personal standard of conduct, at all times and under the most trying conditions, was an inspiration to his students, trainees, and colleagues. His biggest academic contribution was in his commitment to resident education; for the last two years he directed the Vascular Division didactic educational program, and at the time of his death he was completing a new handbook for board certification review. In his honor, his manuscript is being finalized by his trainees and will be submitted to the publisher later this year.

Dr. Alkhatib was an integral member of the Stanford Vascular Family, and his contributions, wise counsel, and sense of humor will be sorely missed. Our hearts go out to his many friends and family members around the world.

cannot wait to be a surgical intern, but I am generally laid-back and friendly, and perhaps a bit quirky. I look forward to meeting everyone in June and to having a fantastic intern year at Stanford!

Edgar St. Amour, MD - University of Arkansas.



My name is Eddie St. Amour, second in a line of five (two girls and three boys; three in medical fields, one in politics, and one a great mom of a 16 month old girl whom we all adore). I was born in Chicago, but raised in the wilderness of Arkansas and love trekking the

abundant river bluffs and bottoms, canoeing, fishing, camping and duck hunting. I spent a year studying in England and picked up the travel bug, love good conversation and conviviality, and gourmet meals. I also have a fledgling passion for the opera, although I do enjoy watching and participating in sports. I am a bit of a bibliophile, and read with abandon anything that comes with a good recommendation in my sparse free time, usually just before falling asleep. In sum, I am sociable and enjoy people, new experiences and perambulating unknown territories— can't wait to see California!

Jordan Bigio, MD - Northwestern University.



I have interests in sports, both watching and playing. Soccer and tennis are a couple I played at a competitive level in the past and am looking to play more regularly. I also enjoy softball, beach volleyball, and riding my bike recreationally or for commuting purposes. But

really, anything sporting, even learning a new sport to me, like lacrosse or rugby, I tend to enjoy. I like a variety of different genres of music. I play guitar, and really like going to live concerts when I can. I'm a travel enthusiast, and have been to Canada (if that counts), Guatemala, Peru, England, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Turkey, Jamaica, S. Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique, and Tanzania, to name most. On the culinary side, I enjoy tasting craft beers, and was impressed with the myriad of selections that California had to offer on a trip to San Diego.

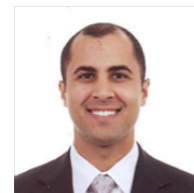
Leland Byer, MD - Georgetown University.



I was born in Virginia, went to medical school in Washington, DC, and began my GME in Texas. I majored in Biology with a double Minor in Chemistry and Theatre Arts. My mother is a professional musician (flutist) and my father is Chief of Family

Practice at Virginia Hospital Center. I have a sister who lives in Houston, TX with her husband and three children. I also have family in Larkspur and Tiburon, CA. I enjoy all watersports (wakeboarding in particular), hiking, and rock-climbing. I have an 8 year old cocker-spaniel mix who has graduated from junior, regular, and advanced puppy school. I have worked as a server, a vet tech, a substitute science teacher, a landscaper, in retail sales, as OPS Officer for Project HOPE, and as a global health liaison for an NGO. I have a serious interest in global health, studying the efficiency and outcomes of nonprofit programs, and working to improve healthcare and advance surgery in developing nations. I have served in Honduras (x 6), Haiti (x2), and Kenya (x1). I am particularly interested in microvascular free tissue transfer, wound healing, and reconstructive surgery.

Kirellos Zamary, MD - University of California, Irvine.



Kirellos Zamary grew up in the Bay Area. He completed his undergraduate education at UC Davis and medical education at UC Irvine. He then went on to Brown University to

complete a PGY-1 prelim year in General Surgery and is looking forward to this coming year at Stanford. He is an active researcher in the field and hopes to remain in academics upon completion of surgical residency. Outside the hospital, he lives a rather active lifestyle. He spends his available free time surfing, mountain biking, and rock-climbing, among other outdoor activities which take advantage of California's great climate and geography. He is also an avid sailor who enjoys spending time out on the water, whether it is a race, a multi-day voyage or day-sail out on the SF Bay with friends. Otherwise, he's got his nose in a book/iPad or cherishing time with friends and family. He looks forward to meeting and working with his future colleagues at Stanford.



The Greg Feldman Balance in Life Program

Creating a legacy in honor of a beloved resident for the benefit of current and future residents.

Greg Feldman was born in Chicago. From an early age, he was academically gifted and also became a first rate musician. After high school in Chicago, he attended Harvard College, graduating with honors and then Harvard Medical School. Greg was our first choice in the Match and began his internship at Stanford in July 2005. While at Stanford, Greg excelled in many ways, but had a special commitment to education and mentoring. Indeed for many medical students and junior residents, Greg came to represent an iconic figure in Stanford Surgical Education. Were these accomplishments not enough, he also had interests in international health best epitomized by taking 2 weeks of vacation during chief residency to work at a missionary hospital in Rwanda. Greg Feldman made all of us at Stanford better for having known him. He won every award and honor that a surgical resident is eligible to receive. His untimely death after completing his residency at Stanford and just 4 months into his vascular surgery

fellowship at another medical center is a tragedy.

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. Throughout his life until the very end, Greg exemplified this balance and fostered it in others. For this reason the program was established in his honor.

From Greg's Family

In honor of our beloved Greg, whose 35th birthday would have been this March 19th, we are focusing on what we believe is a deeply meaningful way to honor his memory, beautiful spirit and incredible life. We are supporting two very important initiatives – the Greg Feldman Surgical Missions to Rwanda of Medical Missions for Children, and the Greg Feldman Residency Balance in Life Program at the Stanford School of Medicine Department of Surgery. An overview of the two programs is below.

In supporting these initiatives, we celebrate the exceptional human being that Greg was, we carry on his legacy of living a life of purpose and healing others, and we help to “heal the healer.” We -- Greg’s immediate family -- have made our own financial commitment to both of these critically important programs and respectfully ask you to join us in supporting one or both of these efforts that, like Greg, will make a significant impact on the lives of so many.

Sincerely,

The Feldman Family (Sid, Rhoda, Howard and Judith)

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/>

2012 Stanford University Department of Surgery Chief Residents



Danielle Bertoni, MD, came to Stanford after completing medical school at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. She will be joining the Palo Alto VA Hospital as a staff surgeon.



Monica Dua, MD, came west to Stanford after getting her medical degree at Drexel University in Philadelphia. She will be going to a minimally invasive surgery fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. Monica served as Administrative Chief Resident in her final year at Stanford.



Ronald Jou, MD, completed medical school at the University of California, San Francisco prior to coming to the Farm. He will continue in the trauma/critical care fellowship here at Stanford. Ron served as the Administrative Chief Resident during his last year.



Ellen Morrow, MD, completed medical school at Stanford and stayed for her residency. She will be doing a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the University of Washington in Seattle.



Richard Parent, MD, earned his medical degree at the University of Vermont. He will be performing a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the Scripps Green Hospital in La Jolla, CA.



Hari Thangarajah, MD, graduated from the University of California, San Francisco before seeing the light and coming to Stanford for his residency. He will be continuing his training doing a fellowship in pediatric surgery at the Boston Children's Hospital.

2012 Departmental Award Winners

John Collins Award
John Henry Smith Award
Chief Resident Award
Resident Teaching Award
Best Intern
Resident Research Award

James Lau
Ron Jou
Andy Shelton
Greg Magee
Tanya Rinderknecht
Sepideh Gholami