



# OpReport

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

**A Quarterly Newsletter**

**Volume 2 Winter, 2014**

**Multiple recognitions for faculty**

*Several faculty earned major attention for their work.*

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**Residency interviews for the incoming class in 2015.**

*Another group of the best and brightest come to Stanford.*

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**2014 ACS brings many back to the Bay Area.**

*An eventful Clinical Congress saw the first alumni reunion among many other events.*

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**Tom Fogarty goes to the White House**

*A distinct honor presented by to the surgical innovator by President Barack Obama.*

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**Holiday parties**

*An annual highlight and the pictures to prove it.*

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**Ropes course**

*An annual team building exercise showing the Department's commitment to the residency.*

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## Sepideh Gholami receives AWS Award



Sepideh Gholami was honored by the Association of Women Surgeons during the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, and a large contingent of Stanford faculty and residents were there to witness and support her.

## OUR FOUNDATIONS

*It is a New Year, and it is one that will see a lot of changes for this Department. As we consider what will happen over the next several years, it is important that we remember what makes us Stanford Surgery.*

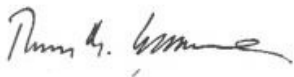
*At the heart of the Department is a common sense of dedication and collegiality among all of our members. This is reflected in what is a true feeling of genuine respect for all the members of the Department and what they do to contribute to its greatness.*

*Equally important is the feeling that we will all be able to do great things if given the opportunities to do so. We try to provide that to our faculty and residents. As shown time after time, the members of the Department rise to the occasion and do so in remarkable fashion. All you have to do is to see the national recognition heaped upon us to know we have a successful formula.*

*So, as we look into the future, what we can clearly see is that we have an outstanding residency program that continues to welcome the best and brightest. In turn, they are taught by one of the most distinguished faculties in the country. With this as the basis, how could our graduates not succeed? The outcome has been the proof with our alumni achieving prominence in all fields and in all parts of the country.*

*As we grow the Alumni Association, I hope that everyone reconnects to further strengthen Stanford Surgery.*

*Best wishes,*



Tom Krummel, MD

Emile Holman Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery

Stanford University School of Medicine

## Carlos Esquivel honored for his mentorship



Dr. Carlos Esquivel, Chief of the Division of Transplantation was selected by the American Society for Transplantation Surgery and the Vanguard Committee as the 2015 recipient of the Francis Moore Excellence in Mentorship in the Field of Transplantation Award and will receive it at the Annual Meeting of the ASTS in January, 2015.

Dr. Esquivel obtained his MD at the University of Costa Rica School of Medicine and trained in general surgery at the University of California at Davis under Dr. William Blaisdell ('59). He would go on to earn a PhD at the University of Lund in Sweden and train in transplant surgery at the University of Pittsburgh under Dr. Thomas Starzl.

Dr. Esquivel was recruited back to California to become Director of the Liver Transplant Program at the California Pacific Medical Center where he built one of the

most active transplant programs in the bay area until he was recruited to become Chief of the Division of Transplantation in the Department of Surgery at Stanford in 1995. The division has grown two-fold under his tenure and is a premier transplant program on the west coast. He is currently the Arnold and Barbara Silverman Professor of Pediatric Transplantation and Associate Director of the Institute of Immunity, Transplantation and Infection in the School of Medicine.

In addition to all of those duties, Dr. Esquivel has become one of the world's leading authorities on pediatric liver transplantation and has led efforts to use split liver and living-related liver transplantation as approaches to alleviate the shortage of organs for children. He is also director of an active research laboratory and is the recipient of an NIH program project grant investigating the immunology of transplantation.

The ASTS is the oldest and largest transplant surgical society and has over 2000 members. The Francis Moore Award recognizes outstanding mentorship by established surgeons on behalf of fellowship trainees and junior faculty, and represents one of the most significant awards presented by the society. Past winners of the award have included Drs. John Fung, Ronald Busuttil, Hans Sollinger, and Nancy Ascher. Please congratulate Dr. Esquivel on this singular achievement.

# Resident Applicant Interviews



During the fall and winter of every year, we see the parade of dark suits around campus as residency applicants come to interview. Stanford is one of the most selective programs in the country with just a small fraction, roughly 10%, earning an interview at the program for the 6 categorical positions. Applicants were welcomed with an informal cocktail party giving them a chance to interact socially with faculty and residents.



## 4th Annual Ignatius Lecture Focused on Education



Dr. Joseph Ignatius generously funded an annual lectureship in the Department of Surgery. He is shown above flanked by Dr. Tom Krummel, Chair of the Department on the right, and by Dr.

K. Anders Ericsson, this year's speaker on the left during the presentation of the lectureship award. Dr. Ericsson is the Conradi Eminent Scholar Professor of Psychology at the Florida State University and he spoke on "What can we learn about highly effective training from studying chess masters, elite athletes and concert musicians? Thoughts on ways to improve training in surgery." This lecture highlights the significant focus placed by Dr. Krummel and the department on the education and training of our residents. Stanford has been a leader in promoting 21st Century approaches to general surgical residency and this has been highlighted by the high degree of satisfaction within the residency.

## Work of Hernandez-Broussard highlighted by the national press



Dr. Tina Hernandez-Broussard published a paper in *Health Affairs*, the leading journal of health policy thought and research, entitled "The Affordable Care Act reduces emergency department use by young adults: evidence from three states." With the current national debate on the merits of the ACA, this paper received extensive coverage from media and was featured by *Forbes* and *Modern Healthcare*. Additionally, Dr. Hernandez-Broussard was a featured guest at several radio programs to discuss the impact of her work.

Dr. Hernandez-Broussard earned her MPH at Yale University and her PhD at University Claude Bernard in Lyon, France. She joined the department faculty in 2011 and is funded by a research award from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the leading government funding agency for outcomes research.

## David Spain selected for leadership in multiple national societies



Dr. David Spain, Ned and Carol Spieker Professor of Acute Care Surgery and Chief of the Section of Trauma and Critical Care was elected to two prestigious positions in major national societies.

During the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Dr. Spain was elected to the office of Recorder and Program Chair. He will be the lead in developing the scientific program for the Annual Meeting of the AAST and for the Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery. He was also recently elected President of the Surgical Critical Care Program Directors' Society.

Dr. Spain earned his MD from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI prior to training in general surgery at the University

of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. He would go on to do a fellowship in trauma and critical care at the University of Louisville where he was recruited as faculty by Dr. Hiram Polk. He rose up to the rank of Professor at the University of Louisville before he was recruited to become Chief of the Section of Trauma and Critical Care Surgery at Stanford in 2001. He has also become Program Director of Surgical Critical Care. His time at Stanford has been highlighted by multiple teaching awards including the Collins Award and the General Surgery Chief Residents' Award.

The AAST is one of the oldest surgical societies and is the pre-eminent organization dedicated to trauma surgery. Officers of the AAST represent the leading figures of American trauma surgery.

The SCCPDS encompasses over 100 institutions that provide training in critical care and is dedicated to providing academic leadership, and resources for professional growth and continuing education. In addition, it provides support and networking for critical care professionals at all levels of their training.

Please congratulate Dr. Spain on these important recognitions.

# 2014 ACS in San Francisco



The Stanford reception was an opportunity for current residents, alums and faculty to meet up.

- 1: Anita Hagan with Kasper Wang ('02) and Marion Henry, both pediatric surgeons.
- 2: 2013 alums Stephanie Chao, Greg Magee, and Mediget Teshome with Tom Krummel.
- 3: Brandon Williams ('07), now on the Vanderbilt faculty, and his wife with Irene Wapnir.
- 4: Gregg Adams ('99), now Chief of Surgery at SCVMC, and Kasper Wang ('02), now at CHLA.
- 5: Current residents Bill Kethman, Jon Gerry, Jerry Chen, Peter Than, and Tim Sweeney make sure the bar stays open.
- 6: Greg Magee ('13), Yulia Zak ('14) and Bill Kethman.
- 7: Jeff Norton, Danielle Bertoni ('12) and Rachel Yang.



# 2014 ACS in San Francisco



The ACS also saw the first Stanford Surgical Alumni/Resident Dinner bringing back many faces.

- 1: Tom Krummel with this year's chief class.
- 2: Brandon Williams ('07), Venita Chandra ('11), Robin Cisco ('11) and Amy Gallo ('09).
- 3: Richard Bloom ('85), Shelley Marks ('98), Katie Manning ('01), Andreas Meier ('99), and Jim McClenathan ('79).
- 4: Natalie Kirilcuk ('10), Brandon Williams ('07) and Cindy Kin ('11).



It was also during this Clinical Congress that Sepideh Gholami received her AWS award.

- 5: Sepideh Gholami accepting her award.
- 6: Sepideh was joined by her family for this distinct honor.
- 7: Sepideh was joined by past AWS Resident of the Year Award winner, Stephanie Chao ('13), now a pediatric surgery fellow at Stanford.





## Dr. Thomas Fogarty presented award at the White House

Dr. Thomas Fogarty has been the pre-eminent surgical inventor of his generation. This culminated with his award of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation presented to him by President Barack Obama at the White House.

Dr. Fogarty earned his MD at the University of Cincinnati followed by a general surgical residency at the University of Oregon (now Oregon Health Sciences University). He came to Stanford where he served on the faculty for several years. He invented his eponymous embolectomy catheter while he was a medical student, although it was not until he was a resident that he would find a company interested in producing it. While at Stanford, he would launch a number of new inventions including vascular

clamps and aortic stent grafts, many of which remain in use today.

Along the way, he founded Three Arches Partners, a venture firm focused on the biomedical arena, and become known as one of the leading venture capitalists in this area. His passion for wine would also lead him to open Thomas Fogarty Winery, an award-winning producer in the Santa Cruz mountains.

His prolific work in innovation has led to every major award given including election to the National Inventors Hall of Fame and the Lemelson-MIT Prize, and culminating in this recent award by the President of the United States.

Dr. Fogarty continues to be active and currently directs the Fogarty Institute for Innovation. He also supports the annual Fogarty Lectureship in the Department of Surgery.



## Rebecca Garza wins research award

Dr. Rebecca Garza, a fifth-year resident in the Division of Plastic Surgery won the Best Hand and Research Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Plastic Surgery in Chicago. She presented her paper entitled, "Adipose-derived stromal cell gene expression in cell-assisted lipotransfer," during the Residents' Abstract Session of the meeting recently held in Chicago. Her work was performed in the laboratory of Dr. Derrick Wan in the Division of Plastic Surgery.

Dr. Garza was an undergraduate at Stanford before going to the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine for her MD. She returned to Stanford when she joined the integrated plastic surgery residency in 2010, and has also been the recipient of the Thuss Research Award from the Division of Plastic Surgery.

# Holiday Parties



One of the social highlights of the year is always the Department Holiday Party and this year was no exception. Faculty, staff and residents gathered to celebrate the season and enjoy some well-deserved social time with each other. The closeness of the department across all levels remains a hallmark of the program.



# 2014 Ropes Course



The Ropes Course is becoming an annual event designed to help build teamwork and camaraderie.

- 1: Apparently, there is something fascinating in that barrel.
- 2: Zach Kastenberg and Bill Kethman share a special moment together.
- 3: There is finally photographic proof of the suspicion among some faculty that the residents do indeed operate as if they are blind.
- 4: Adam Sang and Lyen Huang love Stanford this much.
- 5: Bill Kethman submits himself to his fellow residents as Micaela Esquivel practices the laying-on of hands technique.
- 6: Sort of like a form of resident twister except there is only one color.
- 7: Blake Read gives this activity his stamp of approval.
- 8: The residents became so inspired, they broke out into a spontaneous Broadway song and dance routine.



## From the Program Director



As we are in the final weeks of recruiting our 2015 intern class, I would like to reflect on the first meeting of the **Stanford Surgical Alumni Association** that took place in conjunction with the 2014 Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons in San Francisco. As you can see from the photos, over 15 graduates spanning 4 decades joined our Chief Residents at the Urban Tavern for socializing and networking. The group unanimously voted **Dr. Krummel** an honorary member recognizing his tremendous support both for the residency and the formation of the Alumni Association. Hopefully, the Association will not only enable graduates to reconnect, it will also be an avenue for them to mentor residents, and give back to the program. I am looking forward to expanding participation of all the alumni. Kudos to **Dr. Amanda Wheeler** for getting the association off the ground as its first President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Marc Melcher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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

### Other notable publications from Stanford Surgery

*The following selected publications were authored by Stanford surgeons as noted in bold.*

Duscher D, Neofytou E, Wong VW, Maan ZN, Rennert RC, Inayathullah M, Januszy M, Rodrigues M, Malkovskiy AV, Whitmore AJ, Walmsley GG, **Galvez MG**, Whittam AJ, Brownlee M, Rajadas J, **Gurtner GC**. Trandermal deferoxamine prevents pressure-induced diabetic ulcers. PNAS. 2014. Epub ahead of print.

Rosas U, **Ahmed S**, Leva N, Garg T, **Rivas H**, **Lau J**, Russo M, **Morton JM**. Mesenteric defect closure in laparoscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass: a randomized controlled trial. Surg Endosc. 2014. Dec 6. Epub ahead of print.

**Lin DT**, **Park J**, **Liebert CA**, **Lau JN**. Validity evidence for Surgical Improvement of Clinical Knowledge Ops:

a novel gaming platform to assess surgical decision making. Am J Surg. 2015. 209(1):79-85.

**Forrester JD**, **Chandra V**, **Shelton AA**, **Weiser TG**. Gastrointestinal mucormycosis requiring surgery in adults with hematologic malignant tumors: literature review. Sure Infect. 2014. Nov 18. Pub ahead of print.

**Cloyd JM**, **Yang RL**, Allison KH, **Norton JA**, **Hernandez-Broussard T**, **Wapnir IL**. Impact of histological subtype on long-term outcomes of neuroendocrine carcinoma of the breast. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2014. 148(3):637-44.

**Kastenber ZJ**, Lee HC, Profit J, Gould JB, **Sylvester, KG**. Effect of deregionalized care on mortality in very low-birth-weight Infants with necrotizing enterocolitis. JAMA Pediatr. 2015. 169(1): 26-32.

### Notable Events

*Happenings at Stanford and among our alumni*

Cara Liebert (PD Resident) and her husband, Rob, welcomed Carter Liebert on September 13. Carter weighed in at 9 lbs and stood 21 inches tall.

Tanya Rinderknecht and Allen Taylor will share their anniversary with Carter Liebert. They were married on September 13.

William Brubaker (PGY1) and his wife Julia welcomed son Andrew Bradley to this world. He was born on September 9.

Jerry Chen (PGY5) was engaged to Erica D'Apice on September 8.

# 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: