



OpReport

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

A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 4 Fall, 2015

Chang, Morton and Wren lead national societies

All were elected to be President of these organizations.

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ACS in Chicago

The ACS Clinical Congress has a large Stanford contingent.

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New faculty and fellows

Several new faces are around.

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Kountz fellow

Meet this year's Kountz Diversity Fellow

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More awards and fellowship matches

Stanford Surgery members continue to earn recognition for their work.

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Stanford Surgery highlighted in Time

An article on physician well-being follows a Stanford resident on a day in the hospital.

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2016 ACS Scientific Forum Dedicated to Mike Longaker



The dedication of the Scientific Forum of the American College of Surgeons represents the highest honor given by the ACS to a surgeon-scientist, and reflects a record of exceptional distinction spanning an entire career. Dr. Michael Longaker is the youngest surgeon ever selected for this distinction and he joins Dr. Norman Shumway as the only Stanford surgeon recognized in this fashion. He was presented the award by Drs. Geoff Gurtner and Mary Hawn, Chair of the Department of Surgery at Stanford, who also serves as the Chair of the ACS Scientific Forum Committee. Of note, Drs. Longaker, Hawn and Gurtner are pictured with the winners of the Awards of Excellence from the Scientific Forum and those winners include Dr. Ruth Tevlin, who worked in Dr. Longaker's laboratory.

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends,

Stanford surgeons are making an impact! This issue is filled with wonderful reports of how our faculty, trainees and staff are leading academic surgery.

Mike Longaker's leadership of the American College of Surgeons Scientific Forum was honored this year and his presence continues to be felt throughout the Forum with mentees winning awards left and right.

Sherry Wren, president elect of the Halsted society, is the third Stanford president and the first ever female president of the organization. This is a huge honor for our department.

Jim Chang also follows in the footsteps of notable Stanford surgeons in his ascendancy to the presidency of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand.

This month, John Morton just presided over Obesity Week as President of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, amazing faculty leading in amazing ways.

In the upcoming year we plan to strengthen our identity as a leader in Surgical Education. Our trainees are the future and we envision one that is populated with Stanford trainees leading the way. We have many unique resources including the Goodman simulation center, our Balance in Life program and the Bioskills center. In the spring, our educational leaders will come together to assess our current programs and develop a roadmap for the future.

Stay engaged and involved in Stanford surgery. Your success and support is key for our future.

Warm regards,



Mary Hawm, MD, FACS
Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
Stanford University School of Medicine



Jim Chang is the next President of the Society for Surgery of the Hand.

Dr. Jim Chang, the Johnson and Johnson Distinguished Professor and Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery was recently elected as Vice-President and President-Elect of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand.

Dr. Chang earned his undergraduate degrees in Biology and Economics at Stanford University. He went on to earn his MD at Yale University prior to returning to Stanford for his residency in plastic surgery. During medical school, he also spent two years as a Sarnoff Laboratory Research Fellow at the University of California, San Francisco. Upon completion of his plastic surgery residency, he went on to complete a fellowship in hand and microsurgery at the

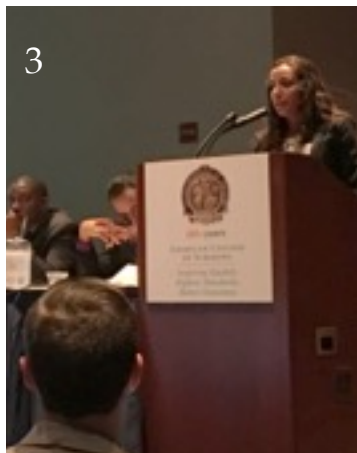
University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. Chang would be recruited back to Stanford at the completion of his training where he has risen through the ranks to his appointment as Division Chief of Plastic Surgery in 2006. His laboratory studies multiple aspects of tissue engineering for plastic and hand surgery and is funded by a VA Merit grant. Outside of Stanford, he serves as the Associate Editor of the Journal of Hand Surgery and the Annals of Plastic Surgery, he is Chair of the Plastic Surgery RRC of the ACGME, and he is Secretary / Treasurer of the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

The ASSH is the first and oldest society for hand surgery, and led the way in establishing training programs for the field. The society now includes plastic, orthopedic and general surgeons who have an interest in hand surgery along with a large number of affiliated health care workers. A founding member and the first President was Dr. Sterling Bunnell, a Stanford faculty member. Dr. Chang joins Dr. Bunnell and two other Stanford faculty who have served as President of the ASSH, Dr. Robert Chase, former Chair of the Department of Surgery, and Dr. Rod Hertz, former Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery.

Please congratulate Dr. Chang on this unique honor.

2015 ACS in Chicago



The Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons is the largest meeting of surgeons in the world and represents a time for Stanford faculty and residents to present their research at the Scientific forum, learn about new advances in clinical care, and meet up with former alumni of the program. The Stanford reception was at the Palmer House Hilton this year and was well attended by attending faculty, residents and alumni.

- 1 Mary Hawn hosts her first reception as Stanford Chair and met recent graduate, Arghavan Salles who is now an MIS fellow at Washington University.
- 2 Mark Welton and Jeff Norton with several of this year's chiefs, Julia Park, Becky Kim, Kim Stone, and Jennifer Erdrich.
- 3 Micaela Esquivel at the podium presenting work from Tom Weiser's research group.
- 4 Current chiefs Becky Kim, Lyen Huang, and Kim Stone in the convention center.
- 5 Ellen Morrow ('12), Andreas Meier ('99) and Jim McClenathan ('79), alumni spanning several decades return to catch up at the reception.
- 6 Geoff Krampitz, Jeff Norton, and Ray Grogan ('09).
- 7 Ray Grogan ('09), Sherry Wren, Cindy Kin ('11), Arghavan Salles ('15), and Dana Lin.

Three new faculty members

Several new faculty members joined the Stanford family over the past few months.



Dr. Eri Fukaya earned an MD and PhD at the Tokyo Women's Medical University where she trained in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. She subsequently completed a residency in internal medicine at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York and a vascular medicine fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. She will join the Division of Vascular Surgery and will be working at the Stanford Advanced Wound Care Center.



Dr. Tina Desai is also joining the Division of Vascular Surgery and came from NorthShore University Health System where she was Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Chicago. She earned her MD at Brown University before going to the University of Chicago for both general surgical residency and vascular surgery fellowship. She will be performing her clinical duties primarily at the Marin General Hospital.



Dr. Eric Kubat will be joining the Division of General Surgery at the Palo Alto VA. He earned his medical degree at the University of Minnesota before doing his general surgery residency at the University of California, San Francisco-East Bay. He went on to complete the minimally invasive surgery fellowship at Stanford-Palo Alto VA.

Please welcome all three new members of the faculty to Stanford.

New Fellows

Each new academic year also brings a number of new fellows.



Dr. Edward Shipper will be the new Education Fellow for 2015-2017. He joins us after completing two years of his general surgery residency at the University of Texas, San Antonio.



Dr. Matthew Chetta is one of the new microsurgery fellows in Plastic Surgery. He joins us after completing the plastic surgery residency at the University of Michigan.



Dr. Laurence Paek is the other new microsurgery fellow. He completed the integrated plastic surgery residency at the Universite de Montreal.

Several residents win travel grants



From L to R: Drs. Lyen Huang, Joe Forrester and Micaela Esquivel

Drs. Lyen Huang, PGY5, Joe Forrester, PGY3, and Micaela Esquivel, PD resident, were all winners of travel awards. Drs. Huang and Esquivel received grants to attend the 2015 Fall Courses in Career Development and Fundamentals of Research put on by the Association for Academic Surgery (AAS) just prior to the ACS Clinical Congress in Chicago, and Dr. Forrester received a grant to attend the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma meeting.

Dr. Huang is currently one of the Administrative Chief Residents and was named the recipient of the 2015 Resident Research Scholarship by the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons. The award supports his attendance at the SAAS is dedicated to developing the next generation of Asian-American leaders in academic surgery. Dr. Huang completed undergraduate and medical school at Stanford prior to residency here. He has also earned an MPH from the University of Cape Town in

South Africa. He is interested in an academic career in colorectal surgery with a focus on understanding and correcting causes of health care disparities.

Dr. Forrester received the AAST Scholarship to attend and present at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. He completed undergraduate at Colorado College before earning his MD from the University of Virginia and his MS in Infectious Disease at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He spent two years as an Epidemic Intelligence Officer with the CDC.

Dr. Esquivel was given the AAS Fall Courses Travel Grant. These grants are given by the AAS specifically to increase participation of women and minorities in academic surgery. She attended college at Santa Clara University and medical school at the University of New Mexico prior to joining the Stanford residency. She is currently working with Dr. Tom Weiser on disparities in health care delivery.

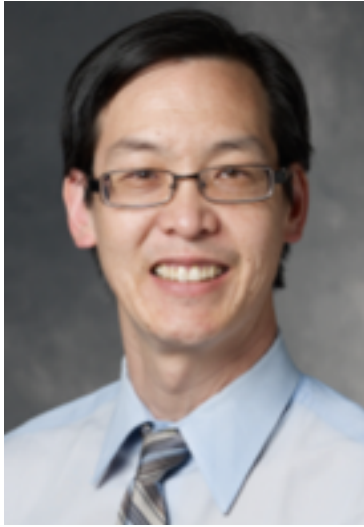
2015 Kountz Diversity Fellow Natasha Coleman



The Samuel Kountz Diversity Fellow for 2015 is Natasha Coleman. Natasha grew up in Bethesda, MD. She earned her AB with honors in neurobiology at Harvard University. Prior to medical school, she worked for 2 years in the Cancer Clinical Trials Office of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. She is currently in her final year at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. During her training, she has been active in issues related to diversity and health care disparities.

The Kountz Fellowship is named after Samuel Kountz ('65), a leading figure in transplantation surgery, and was designed to encourage underrepresented minority student interest in a career in academic surgery. Please welcome Natasha to Stanford when you see her.

Jim Lau presents at Teaching Showcase



Dr. Jim Lau, Associate Director of the General Surgery Residency Program and Assistant Dean for Medical Student Education was one of 20 Stanford faculty selected from the six schools of the university to present at the first Great Teaching Showcase. The event was sponsored by Vice Provost John Mitchell and the Office of Teaching and Learning and gives these faculty a chance to present their innovative approaches to teaching and education.

Dr. Lau is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Section of Minimally Invasive Surgery in the Division of General Surgery. He is the Director of the Goodman Simulation Center and of the ACS-accredited Surgical Education Fellowship. He was recently awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Association for Surgical Education.

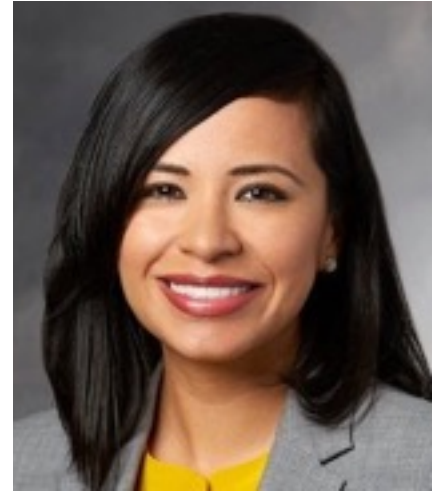
Stanford Surgery given quality award

A major focus in modern surgery has been on improving quality of care. At the lead in the process has been the American College of Surgeons through the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP).

This October, the Stanford Hospital and Clinics were chosen to receive the “Meritorious” Award from ACS NSQIP. This award is given out to recognize excellence in surgical patient care. ACS NSQIP monitors surgical patient outcomes in eight different clinical areas including surgical site infections, unintended intubation, pneumonia, myocardial infarction and mortality. Stanford received high composite scores in all eight areas. There are over 500 hospitals nationwide that participate in this program and only 52 were given this award.

ACS NSQIP is the only nationally validated quality improvement program that measures and enhances the care of surgical patients. The program measures surgical outcomes while adjusting for patient co-morbidities and acuity levels. The goal is to reduce surgical morbidity and mortality through the development of best practice guidelines created with high quality scientific evidence.

Anita Hagan recognized



Anita Hagan, the Program Coordinator for the General Surgery Residency continues to win recognition for the high quality of her work. She won the ACGME Program Coordinator Excellence Award. The award was created to honor and recognize the very crucial role that program coordinators play in the success of a residency program. The ACGME is a private, non-profit organization that reviews and accredits graduate medical education programs in the US.

Anita joined Stanford soon after completing her education and has now served as the Residency Program Coordinator for over 14 years. She has been instrumental in guiding the program through multiple accreditation reviews and has kept the residency program in strong shape. This award compliments the APDS Program Coordinator Award she won last spring.

Chief Resident Match Results

Fellowship match results for this year's chief residents are completed and Stanford residents continue to demonstrate their ability to match in leading fellowship programs around the country.



Dr. Jennifer Erdrich, one of the administrative chief residents for this year, will be going to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles for a fellowship in surgical oncology.



Dr. Lyen Huang, the other administrative chief resident, has

matched at the Mayo Clinic in their colorectal surgery fellowship.



Dr. Erin Palm will be headed to Los Angeles for the fellowship in trauma/critical care at the University of Southern California-Los Angeles County Hospital.



Dr. Julia Park will be in Boston for the fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Drs. Becky Kim and Kim Stone have deferred their fellowship applications until the following year. This represents another outstanding year for graduating chief residents.

Morton leads as President during Obesity Week



Dr. John Morton, Associate Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Section of Bariatric and Minimally Invasive Surgery completed his term as President of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery during Obesity Week, the Annual Meeting of the ASMBS and The Obesity Society. Obesity Week took place from Nov 2-7 in Los Angeles. Dr. Morton entitled his Presidential Address, "Second Chances." He earned his medical degree at Tulane and also did his general surgery residency there. This was followed by a fellowship at the University of North Carolina.

The ASMBS is the largest society dedicated to bariatric and metabolic surgery. It has over 4000 members from 52 countries making it truly international.

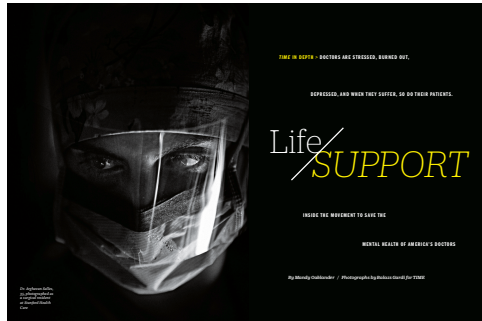
Sherry Wren is President-Elect of the Halsted Society



Dr. Sherry Wren was recently selected to be President-Elect of the Halsted Society. The Halsted Society is an honorary organization dedicated to preserving the surgical legacy of Dr. Halsted. She joins Drs. Tom Krummel and James BD Mark as Stanford surgeons who have been elected to this position, and is the first woman elected to the position. She will assume the Presidency in 2016.

Dr. Wren is Professor of Surgery and Chief of General Surgery at the Palo Alto VAHCS. After medical school at Loyola, she trained in general surgery at Yale and the University of Pittsburgh followed by fellowship training in hepatobiliary surgery at USC.

Stanford Residency highlighted in Time Magazine article



Time Magazine published an article highlighting the Stanford general surgery residency. They followed Dr. Arghavan Salles ('15), a recent graduate of the program while she was a chief resident at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. She is now a fellow in minimally invasive surgery at Washington University in St. Louis.

The article examined the impact of stress, sleep deprivation and high expectations on the mental health of doctors in this country, and has a pictorial focused on the daily life of a surgical resident. The article also highlights the efforts the residency has taken to reduce the stresses of training through the efforts of the Balance in Life Program. This program has gotten national attention for its focus on resident well-being.

The article was published in the September 7, 2015 issue of Time Magazine.

Laura Mazer wins AOA Award



Dr. Laura Mazer received one of the Postgraduate Awards from Alpha Omega Alpha. Her project focuses on developing a competency-based curriculum for the surgical sub-internship. Her mentor for the project is Dr. Jim Lau. AOA is the national medical honor society dedicated to improving care for all by supporting educational achievement, gifted teaching and leadership development.

Dr. Mazer is currently in her second year as the Surgical Education Fellow. She came to Stanford after completing 3 clinical years as a general surgery resident at the Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston. She received her undergraduate and medical education at the University of Chicago and Emory University, respectively. She also earned an MS in Clinical Research while at Emory.



From the Program Director

Our recruitment of the 2016 General Surgery Intern class is in full swing. Thank you to the residents, faculty, and staff who have been so involved. Recruiting those who have the potential to be outstanding surgeons and “lead through innovation and discovery” is crucial for our continued success.

Over 700 hundred medical students applied to our program this year. We will be interviewing 80 plus outstanding candidates over 3 interview days. As in the past three years, we have 5 categorical positions for residents doing 5 clinical years and 2 years of research and 1 categorical position for the Stanford Accelerated Surgeon Scientist (SASS) track. The SASS track enables candidates

who already have significant academic portfolios to complete the residency in 5 years. Candidates that are competitive for this position would include those who have previously earned a PhD and successfully published their work.

Congrats to Anita Hagan for once again getting national recognition and winning the “ACGME Program Coordinator Excellence Award” recognizing her importance to the success of our program!

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

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Notable Publications

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

Kazure, HS, Chandra, V, Mell, MW. Unplanned reoperations after vascular surgery. J Vasc Surg. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

Gurtner, GC, Wong, VW. Filamin A mediates wound closure by promoting elastic deformation and maintenance of tension in the collagen matrix. J Invest Dermatol. 2015. 135(11):2569-71.

Forrester, JD, Forrester, JA, Kamara, TB, Groen, RS, Shrestha, S, Gupta, S, Kyamanywa, P, Petroze, RT, Kushner, AL, **Wren, SM.** Self-reported determinants of access to surgical care in 3 developing countries. JAMA Surg. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

Tran, TB, Hatzaras, I, **Worhunsky, DJ,** Vitiello, GA, Squires, MH 3rd, Jin, LX, Spolverato, G, Votanopoulos, KI, Schmidt, C, Weber, S, Bloomston, M, Cho, CS, Levine, EA, Fields, RC, Pawlik, TM, Maithel, SK, **Norton, JA, Poultsides, GA.** Gastric remnant cancer: a distinct entity or simply another proximal gastric cancer? J Surg Oncol. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

Killian, JT Jr, Holcomb, CN, Graham, LA, Richman, JS, **Hawn, MT.** Delays in surgery for patients with coronary stents places after diagnosis of colorectal cancer. JAMA Surg. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

Walmsley, GG, Senarath-Yapa, K, Wearda, TL, Menon, S, Hu, MS, Tsai, JM, Zielins, ER, Duscher, D, Maan, ZN, Weisman, IL, **Gurthner, GC, Lorenz, HP, Longaker, MT.** Surveillance of stem cell fate and function: a system for assessing cell survival and collagen expression in situ. Tissue Eng Part A. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

Jaramillo, J, Snyder, E, Dunlap, JL, Wright, R, Mendoza, F, **Bruzoni, M.** The Hispanic Clinic for Pediatric Surgery: a model to improve parent-provider communication for Hispanic pediatric surgery patients. J Pediatr Surg. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

Salles, A, Dua, M, Friedland, S, **Visser, B.** Minimally invasive approaches to resection of benign/low-grade gastric tumors. Surg Endosc. 2015. Epub ahead of print.

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: