Welcome to the first issue of the Stanford Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery Quarterly Newsletter! We are honored to serve our patients, drive research innovation, and train the next generation of leaders in cardiothoracic surgery. Below are highlights of the latest news, patient stories, research developments, education updates, and publications reflecting our department's mission in clinical care, research, and education. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

Joseph Woo, MD
Norman E. Shumway Professor and Chair
Stanford Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery

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**In the News**

**JAMA Surgery appoints Leah Backhus as inaugural Deputy Editor**

*JAMA Surgery* recently announced the appointment of Leah Backhus, MD, MPH, as the inaugural deputy editor of diversity, equity, and inclusion. [Read more.](#)

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**NIH awards $2.8M to develop AI-based platform to predict cardiovascular surgery and heart failure outcomes**

NIH has awarded nearly $2.8 million to Dr. William Hiesinger's deep learning lab to support the development of an artificial intelligence-based platform to predict cardiovascular surgery and heart failure outcomes. [Read more.](#)

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**Kapi‘olani Medical Center for Women & Children welcomes Louis Capecci as its first full-time pediatric heart surgeon**

Kapi‘olani Medical Center for Women & Children recently welcomed Stanford Children’s Health cardiothoracic surgeon Louis Capecci, MD, as its first full-time pediatric surgeon to its team. [Read more.](#)
Stanford's expertise in rare and complicated heart surgeries provides life-saving options for patients
For patients like Nathan Foss, Stanford’s expertise in rare and complicated heart surgeries provides better options. Read more.

Woman with heart problem achieves dream of becoming a mother, twice over
Stanford hospitals collaborated closely to provide deeply specialized care to an expectant mom with a heart condition. Read more.

Groundbreaking heart-lung procedure gives toddler a chance at a full life
The heart team at Stanford Children’s Hospital performed a lifesaving surgical procedure for Santana, who had both heart failure and lung complications. Read more.

Esteemed cardiothoracic surgeon and long-time mentor D. Craig Miller retires after 43 years
The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery extends its heartfelt appreciation to D. Craig Miller, MD, for his 43 years of outstanding service at Stanford School Medicine, who retired on August 31, 2021. Read more.

Philip E. Oyer, honored cardiothoracic surgeon and pioneer, retires after 45 years
The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery expresses deep gratitude to Philip E. Oyer, MD, PhD, for his 45 years of distinguished legacy and service at Stanford School of Medicine, who retired on August 31, 2021. Read more.

SCVMC chief of cardiothoracic surgery David Ogden retires after 13 years at Stanford
The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery extends its appreciation to David Ogden, MD, for his 13 years of service at Stanford Medicine, who retired on February 28, 2022. Read more.
Stanford's experience in heart transplantation over five decades
A study led by the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery found long-term survival after heart transplantation has improved over the last 50 years at the longest-running heart transplant center in the U.S. Read more.

Tissue engineering in space could treat age-related muscle loss on Earth
In an experiment funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, Ngan F. Huang, PhD, and her lab sent engineered skeletal tissue to space to explore microgravity effects on sarcopenia. Read more.

Donor hearts can withstand longer ischemic times
Based on a study presented by Brandon Guenthart, MD, at the Society of Thoracic Surgeons 58th Annual Meeting, the practice of accepting extended ischemic times appears safe. Read more.

How to become a heart surgeon: A study on cardiothoracic surgery residency programs
In a study led by first author Oluwatomisin Obafemi, MD, and senior author Anson Lee, MD, researchers surveyed U.S. cardiothoracic surgery residency program directors about the characteristics of successful candidates. Read more.

Machine-learning to predict right ventricular heart failure in LVAD patients
In a study led by lead author Rohan Shad, MD, and senior author, William Hiesinger, MD, researchers found using a deep learning system could predict right ventricular failure after cardiac surgery, significantly outperforming a team of human experts conducting the same evaluation. Read more.
Department welcomes new CT surgery residents

The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery is excited to welcome the newest residents to the Integrated Cardiothoracic Surgical Training Program! Kelly Higa, Hannah McMullen, and Alexander Reed will start their training at the end of June 2022. Read more.

Stanford Medcast: Celebrating Women in Medicine with Leah Backhus

In this podcast, Leah Backhus, MD, MPH, shares her journey in medicine and covers topics on unconscious bias, diversity, minorities in medicine, and the importance of creating a circle of advocates and mentors. Listen now.

2022 AATS Annual Meeting will showcase clinical and research expertise from Department

The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery will showcase their clinical and research expertise at the American Association for Thoracic Surgery 102nd Annual Meeting on May 14-17, 2022. Learn more.

Department research featured at 2022 STS Annual Meeting

The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery presented the latest research at the Society of Thoracic Surgeons 58th Annual Meeting from January 29 to 30, 2022. Read more.

Educational Excellence Spotlights

In this new Educational Excellence Spotlight series, we feature individuals who pursue advanced degrees while in practice, training, or residency within the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Read more.

SPOTLIGHT: Featuring Amanda Steele, a former postdoctoral research fellow in Dr. Joseph Woo’s laboratory. Amanda received her PhD in Bioengineering from Stanford in 2019. >>
The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery is dedicated to conducting cutting-edge research. Check out more of our faculty publications.


Relation Between Pulmonary Artery Pressures Measured Ex vivo biomechanical analysis of flexible versus rigid


Send newsletter ideas, feedback, or comments to Mary Bilbao / Roxanna Van Norman.