



# OpReport

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

## A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 2 Winter, 2013

### Laub wins ACS Humanitarian Award

*A testimony to a life long devotion to providing care for the less fortunate.*

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### Interviewing for the Class of 2021

*It is the season for residency applicants again.*

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### Chief Resident operative volumes

*Stanford continues demonstrate strength in clinical experience.*

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### Welcome to new faculty

*Several faculty have joined recently in general and vascular surgery*

Page 4 and 5

### Happy holidays

*Pictures from the General Surgery Holiday Party.*

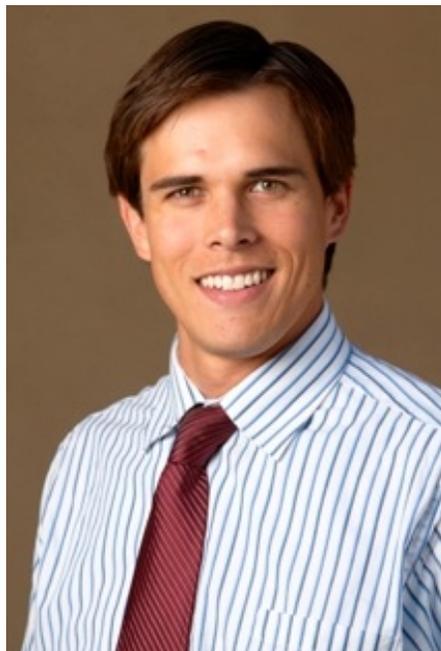
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### Fellowship matches for the chiefs

*All of this year's chief residents will be pursuing advanced training. See where they will be going.*

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## Resident Leadership for 2014-15 Selected



Sepideh Gholami (left) and Jon Gerry (center) have been chosen to be the Administrative Chief Residents for the next academic year. Aarthi Kannappan (right) will be the education chief.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

*I know this newsletter will arrive after the holidays, but I wanted to make sure I wished everyone in the Stanford surgical community a Happy Holidays. During our departmental holiday celebrations, we had a chance to enjoy each others' company and to strengthen the ties that bind our Stanford family.*

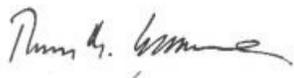
*As we celebrate our good fortune over the past year, it is important to remind ourselves that there are plenty of people who do not share that same sense of family, security, and well-being. These people are not just in faraway places, but also right here with us in Palo Alto. In the new year, I would like all of us to dedicate some part of our life to remembering and helping those people out there.*

*This reminder is especially highlighted by two of the items in this newsletter. The first is the ACS Surgical Humanitarian Award given to Don Laub. His founding of Interplast set in motion the current interests we now see in global health. The second is the recognition given to the work of Kim Rhoads. Her work specifically highlights how health care is not the same for everyone, even in this country.*

*The department continues to grow as highlighted by the introduction of 3 new faculty members in this issue. They will continue to help strengthen our department. And, we are in the midst of our resident recruitment for the next year. All signs point to continued success for the department.*

*Finally, I want to alert all of our alumni that this year will see our first annual alumni reunion event. It promises to be fun and exciting. More details will come in the next few months.*

*Hoping 2014 brings you happiness,*



Tom Krummel, MD

Emile Holman Professor and Chair

Department of Surgery

Stanford University School of Medicine

## Donald Laub given Surgical Humanitarian Award



Dr. Donald R. Laub, Sr, was selected by the American College of Surgeons to receive the 2013 ACS/Pfizer Surgical Humanitarian Award for his lifetime of service to the underserved in developing nations and in recognition of the fact that individuals and organizations around the world have emulated his model of surgical humanitarian outreach.

Dr. Laub earned his MD at Marquette University (now the Medical College of Wisconsin) and trained in surgery at Yale and Stanford. He joined the Stanford faculty and was involved in the founding of the integrated plastic surgery training program at Stanford that exists to this day. He would serve as Chief of Plastic Surgery from 1968-80. He continues to teach courses in the medical school.

In 1969, Dr. Laub founded Interplast, the first organization to take multi-disciplinary teams to developing countries on short-term surgical trips becoming a pioneer in the field of global humanitarian surgery. He has completed over 150 trips and performed over 1500 operations to repair cleft lips and palates over the ensuing years. Interplast is now ReSurge International and is working to empower local communities. Surgical outreach programs have been started in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to train local personnel and to provide year-round access to reconstructive surgery.

Dr. Laub has received numerous awards for his humanitarian work, including the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons' 2002 Humanitarian of the Year Award, a 1986 Private Sector Initiatives award from President Ronald Reagan, the Medal of Merit from the President of Ecuador in 1987, and the Award of Honor from the President of Honduras in 1984.

The ACS/Pfizer Surgical Humanitarian Award recognizes Fellows who have dedicated a substantial portion of their careers to ensuring that underserved populations receive surgical care, and although this work may constitute a large part of their career, they have done so without expectation of commensurate compensation. Congratulations to Dr. Laub on this terrific honor.

# Resident Applicant Interviews



A select group of residency applicants came to visit and interview at Stanford. Once again, difficult decisions were made to select the applicants to interview among a large number of highly qualified individuals. Match Day will be in March.



## Resident Operative Experience Continues to Impress



At the end of the past year, resident operative numbers showed continued strength in the residency program based upon operative

volume. The chief residents completed the program with an average of 1146 cases. When examining operative volume per year, it showed averages of 113, 242, 399, 297 and 330 cases during the PGY1, PGY2, PGY3, PGY4 and PGY5 years. Stanford residents are over one standard deviation from the national averages for total cases (976.9) and cases as a chief resident (237.8). These numbers are also consistent with the past few years' chief residents' experiences and are significantly higher than chief residents from a decade ago. The case volume per year is also a significant strength as it shows consistent operative experience over the entire residency rather than packed into the senior residency years as often happens.

## Tom Krummel elected to AIMBE



Dr. Thomas M. Krummel, the Emile Holman Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery was elected to the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) College of Fellows. He becomes a member of a select group (top 2%) of most accomplished medical and biological engineers that make up the College of Fellows. He will be inducted at AIMBE's 2014 Annual Event, March 23-25, 2014, in Washington, DC at the National Academy of Sciences.

AIMBE advocates on issues impacting the medical and biological engineering community. AIMBE played a pivotal role in helping to establish the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) at the National Institutes of Health.

## More faculty joining General Surgery

The Division of General Surgery is proud to welcome two new outstanding recruits.



Dr. Amanda Wheeler returns to the Stanford surgery community. Dr. Wheeler earned her MD from the Oregon Health Sciences University and performed her internship at Maricopa Medical Center prior to transferring to Stanford. She completed her general surgery residency at Stanford in 2008 and went on to do a fellowship in breast oncology at the Harvard-affiliated hospitals.

At the completion of her training, Dr. Wheeler spent 5 years in private practice in Portland, OR where she was the Medical Director of the Meridian Park Legacy Breast Cancer Program. She has been active on the Education Committee of the

American Society of Breast Surgeons, and her interests are in oncoplastic and nipple-sparing surgical techniques as well as the treatment of young women with breast cancer.



Also joining the faculty is Dr. Dan Azagury. He earned his MD in Switzerland at the Geneva University School of Medicine and performed his surgical residency at the Geneva University Hospital. He performed a research fellowship followed by a clinical fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He was then a Biodesign Fellow here at Stanford. He returned to Switzerland to serve as an Assistant Professor at the Geneva University Hospital before his recruitment back to Stanford. He has been active in professional societies including with SAGES and ASBMS. He will clinical work will focus on bariatric surgery.

Please welcome both individuals to Stanford.

## New Faculty in Vascular Surgery

The Division of Vascular Surgery announced that two new faculty members would be joining them.



Dr. Venita Chandra was appointed to Clinical Assistant Professor effective August 12, 2013. She will practice at SHC and serve as Co-Medical Director of the Stanford Wound Care Center, opening May 2014 at the Stanford Medicine Outpatient Center in Redwood City. Dr. Chandra earned her B.S. degree, Summa Cum Laude, in Genetics and Cell Biology from the University of Minnesota in 1999. In 2004, she received her medical degree from the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Dr. Chandra completed her General Surgery residency at Stanford in 2011 and is a graduate of the Stanford Biodesign program. She continued on to the Stanford Vascular Surgery

Fellowship and finished in June 2013.



Dr. George K. Lee was appointed to Clinical Assistant Professor (Affiliated) effective September 1, 2013. He will join the Vascular Surgery team at the Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Dr. Lee earned his B.S. degree, Magna Cum Laude, from the honors program in Allied Medical Professions from Ohio State University, in 2001 and his medical degree from Emory University in 2007. Dr. Lee completed the Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency Program at Stanford in 2013.

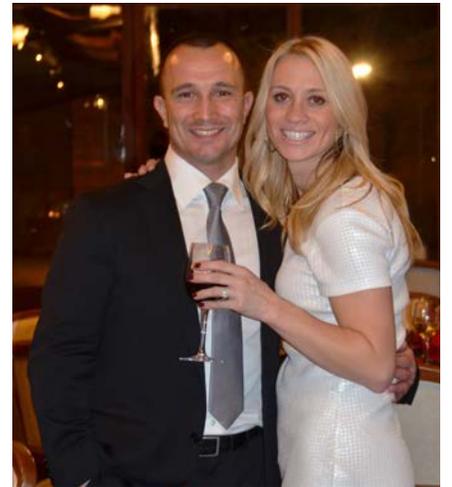
Please welcome them to the remainder of the outstanding vascular surgery faculty.

## Stefanie Jeffrey given endowed chair



Dr Stefanie S. Jeffrey was awarded the John and Marva Warnock Chaired Professorship in the Stanford University School of Medicine. She earned her MD at UCSF and stayed there for her surgical residency. She has spent the majority of her professional career at Stanford having served as Director of the Interdisciplinary Breast Fellowship and Chief of Breast Surgery. She is currently the Chief of Surgical Oncology Research. She has been the recipient of multiple awards including the Cowell Outstanding Faculty Physician Award and the NASA Space Act Board Award. Her current research focuses on the role of circulating tumor cells in cancer and molecular profiling of cancers with a long term goal of identifying tumor-specific therapies for the personalized treatment of cancer.

# Holiday Parties





## Dr. Rhoads with featured publication in Cancer

Dr. Kim Rhoads' manuscript entitled, "What factors influence minority use of NCI Cancer Centers?" has been selected by the journal *Cancer* to be distinguished on the cover as the featured article in an upcoming issue of the journal. *Cancer* is one of the oldest peer-reviewed journals in the field of oncology reaching over 20 million people worldwide. It is one of the official publications of the American Cancer Society.

Dr. Rhoads earned her MD at UCSF and her MPH at Harvard. She trained in general surgery and colorectal surgery at UCSF prior to joining the faculty at Stanford. She was a recipient of the Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and has received funding from the NIH for her research. She is currently Director of the Community Partnerships Program for the Stanford Cancer Center. Her research has focused on health care disparities in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

## Other notable publications from Stanford Surgery

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

**Eisenberg D, Wren SM.** Innovation in safety and safety in innovation. *JAMA Surg.* 2013.

**Cloyd JM, Ma Y, Morton JM, Tamura MK, Poultides GA, Visser BC.** Does chronic kidney disease affect outcomes after major abdominal surgery? Results from the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program. *J Gastrointest Surg.* 2013.

**Salles A, Cohen GL, Mueller CM.** The relationship between grit and resident well-being. *Am J Surg.* 2013.

**Morton JM, Winegar D, Blackstone R, Wolfe B.** Is ambulatory laparoscopic roux-en-Y gastric bypass associated with higher adverse events? *Ann Surg.* 2013.

**Staudenmayer KL, Hsia RY, Mann NC, Spain DA, Newgard CD.** Triage of elderly patients: a population-based perspective. *J Am Coll Surg.* 2013. 217(4):569-76.

**Sylvester KG, Ling XB, Liu GY, Kastenber ZJ, Ji J, Hu Z, Peng S, Lau K, Abdullah F, Brandt ML, Ehrenkranz RA, Harris MC, Lee TC, Simpson J, Bowers C, Moss RL.** A novel urine peptide biomarker-based algorithm for the prognosis of necrotising enterocolitis in human infants. *Gut.* 2013.

**Wapnir I, Dua M, Kiernyn A, Paro J, Morrison D, Kahn D, Meyer S, Gurtner G.** Intraoperative imaging of nipple perfusion patterns and ischemic complications in nipple-sparing mastectomies. *Ann Surg Oncol.* 2014. 21(1):100-6.



## John Morton becomes President-elect of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons

During its past election, Dr. John Morton was selected as the next President of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons. The ASMBS is the largest organization in the world dedicated to issues surrounding obesity surgery and serves over 4000 members in over 400 countries.

Dr. Morton earned his medical degree at Tulane University where he would stay for his general surgical residency. He followed this with a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the University of North Carolina. He serves on multiple editorial boards and is Director of the Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship at Stanford. Please join us in offering him our sincere congratulations. He is the first Stanford surgeon accorded this honor.

## From the Program Director



The resident recruitment season for the 2014 General Surgery Intern Class is coming to an end, and we have certified our match list. The quality of medical school graduates going into general surgery is truly outstanding. The future of general surgery continues to be bright.

The **2014 Stanford General Surgery Education Retreat** is scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup> an 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. James Lau has taken the lead in organizing the event which will focus on the implementation of the Milestones Project. The Milestones Project is new framework for the assessment of the development resident physicians in key dimensions of the elements of physician competency. Dr. Lau has invited Dr. John Potts of the ACGME to be the keynote speaker on Friday evening. Specifically, he will be discussing Milestones for Surgical Training and the Role of the Clinical Competence Committee. Saturday will be focused on faculty development and

the development of residency assessment tools to implement the Milestones.

Our graduation celebration is also coming up quickly. We will proudly be sending 6 new surgeons on to the next level. I look forward to featuring them in our next issue.

Sincerely,

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

### Fellowship Matches for Graduating Chief Residents

The current class of Stanford chief residents have had another highly successful year in the fellowship match. All five of the graduating chief residents have matched in the field of their choice in some of the best fellowships in the country.

Kevin Helling - minimally invasive surgery, Brigham and Women's

Osita Onugha - cardiothoracic surgery, UCLA

Carlos Pineda - vascular surgery, USC

Motaz Qadan - surgical oncology, Memorial Sloan Kettering

Yulia Zak - minimally invasive surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital

### The Stanford Resident International Travel Fund

The ability to have a foreign experience during residency has been an important part of the Stanford residency. To support this educational goal, a fund has been established to aid with travel costs. The support of past residents who have benefited from this will carry on that tradition.

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](mailto:sedelman@stanford.edu)

### Notable Events

*Happenings at Stanford and among our alumni*

Jordan Cloyd (PGY4) and his wife welcomed the arrival of their daughter Hannah Aileen. She was born on Oct 9 at LPCH weighing 7 lbs 6 oz with a length of 20 inches.

Isabel and Carlos Pineda (PGY4) welcomed the birth of their son, Gabriel Eduardo Pineda, on January 7.

Amy Gallo and Allan McCall welcomed their second baby boy. Dewey McCall was born on November 7 weighing 6 lbs, 10 oz and lying in at 19 in tall.

Dana and Jason Lin welcomed the birth of their baby girl Moriah (5 lbs, 4 oz, 18 1/4 in) and boy Joshua (5 lbs, 9 oz, 18 3/4 in) at 1:26 PM and 1:24 PM, respectively, on December 18.

# 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: