January 2019 - July 2019
Residency & Alumni Newsletter

Upcoming Events
CalACEP AdvancED - Sept 20
FIX2019 - Sept 15-17
ACEP - Oct 27-30

Welcome Class of 2023!

BIRTHDAYS

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Message from the Chair

Greetings! We’ve graduated another crop of great doctors (in fact our 41st class of graduates!). While we’re sorry to see them go, we’re happy to welcome our 15 new interns. The DEM (Department of Emergency Medicine—glad we can finally say that) is full of talented people, which I hope you’ll be able to see throughout this newsletter. As always, thanks to Richelle Cooper (1998) for painstakingly pulling all of this great information together for us.

A few notable items to point out:

**Jackie Shibata** joined our faculty full-time at Olive View after completing a fellowship in Ultrasound at Harbor, adding to our growing expertise in emergency sonography.

**Tomer Begaz** was selected to be the co-Chair of the Acute Care College of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

**Mark Morocco (2001)** has become our first Director of Development. In this role, Mark will help organize our departmental efforts to identify and meet with potential donors for philanthropic gifts to help us advance our academic mission.

**Natasha Wheaton** is continuing in her role as Associate Program Director, but is taking on the new responsibility as our Director of Medical Student Education. In this role she will help us expand the role of our DEM in the education as the DGSOM completes a redesign of the curriculum. Tomer and Mark will continue to offer their experience and assistance as Assistant Directors.
Scott Votey (1987) announced his retirement this year after many years at UCLA and two stints as Program Director. But don’t worry, he will continue to come work and teach in the ED several times each month.

Frank Day (1999) has already been working with us at RR and with UCLA Informatics, but now will join the faculty for some additional time at Santa Monica.

Diane Birnbaumer, long time faculty member at Harbor and internationally acclaimed educator, is planning a series of faculty development sessions at several of our UCLA sites over the next year, focusing on teaching methods.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Hendey (1993)
Chair, UCLA Emergency Medicine

The UCLA DEM mission is to be a global leader in Emergency Medicine by:
- Providing excellent care to all patients we serve
- Conducting leading-edge research that advances the health of our patients and community
- Training physicians to be innovative and inspiring leaders
Message from the Program Director Rebecca Bavolek

It’s hard to believe that another academic year has come to an end as we graduated the Class of 2019. The residency is already gearing up and getting excited for the upcoming year. Our program is growing and we are looking forward to recruiting our 4th class of 15 residents this upcoming season, bringing us to a total of 60 residents! As you can imagine, this takes an entire village of help. I am thrilled that Jennifer Cassidy was officially named our Residency Coordinator earlier this academic year. She has been a tremendous help to the program as we were without an official coordinator for months and she did the job of two (maybe three?) people. Joining her is our newest member of the team, Rosa Graziano, who is our Assistant Residency Coordinator stationed in Westwood. Christina Denman continues to be a big help holding down the fort on the Coordinator side at Olive View. We are also thankful to the rest of our office staff including Corazon Corona, who is in charge of medical student and fellowship coordination, and Jasmine Bermudez, who serves as our Academic Personnel Coordinator. These fantastic women, along with our Administrative Manager at Olive View, Susi Morrisett, and our Chief Administrative Officer, Bonnie Cheung, work tirelessly and often do double duty to make sure that our residency machinery continues to run without a hitch!

Our Associate/Assistant Residency Director team is working hard as well, helping mentor our residents as they go forward in their training. Each APD is assigned a class to guide: Natasha Wheaton - Class of 2020, Steven Lai - Class of 2021, Jaime Jordan - Class of 2022, and Pam Dyne just graduated her class of 2019 and is starting with our newly minted Class of 2023! On behalf of the residency leadership, we are looking forward to the upcoming academic year and we have many plans to continue to improve the training and experience for our residents. Our graduates are amongst the best in the country, and we are all dedicated to keeping that way!

ACGME 2019 in Orlando

Jennifer Cassidy represented our program as residency coordinator at the ACGME conference in Florida. She was able to spend time with other UCLA department residency coordinators, including former emergency medicine coordinator Wayne Hasby who is the UCLA Anesthesiology residency coordinator.

Match Day at UCLA 2019

Jaime Jordan and Jennifer Cassidy attended UCLA School of Medicine Match Day and caught up with two of our incoming interns, Nate Coggins and Caitlin Oldenkamp.
This March we had another successful group of meetings at the annual residency retreat. We started with a program meeting among the faculty which culminated with a group exercise - a drum circle. We are one UCLA EM tribe!

The new chiefs started to take the reins of organizing the small groups and discussions and left with lots of projects to start implementing in our continual re-evaluation of our best practices as a residency.

There was plenty of time to have fun and enjoy each other’s company. Jo Feldman brought her dogs, Mr Biggz and Seven, and Ester and Greg Moran (1992) brought a handful of puppies they are fostering for anyone who needed a little dog therapy.

The UCLA residency band Gravely Disabled entertained the crowd on the first night. Patrons at the bar who were not part of our group were overhead saying “They are really good.”

A huge thanks to the residency team for all the planning and effort, to the fellows, alumni and faculty who worked so that all of us could participate at the retreat, to the support from Antelope Valley Emergency Medical Associates (AVEMA) that helped support the event.
Meet the 2019-2020 Chief Residents

Greetings from the newest team chief! Not only has the residency grown in numbers, but so has the chief team! There are five of us this year and we are all excited to serve as the program’s chief residents. We have loved our time at this program and we are looking forward to continuing to help provide the residents with the same great experience we have all had.

Here’s a little bit about each of us:

Steven Bolger grew up in Colorado and then moved east to New York for medical school before deciding to try a sunnier spot here in California. He did bring his SPF 70 and beach umbrella with him. If you want to discuss LR vs NS for fluid resuscitation in sepsis, Steven is your guy. Steven has had a few good years of sun now and is ready to head back to New York City after graduation.

Jackie Kurth is a native Californian who has been here for medical school and now residency and has no plans on ever leaving. In her free time you can find her looking at pictures of dogs on Instagram or hanging out at the beach (also with SPF 70). In keeping with her plans to never leave California, she plans to stay in Los Angeles after graduation.

Randy Lee is arguably the most interesting person in this residency. He is originally from Pennsylvania but moved to New York and worked in finance aka Wolf of Wall Street, before deciding to change careers and go to medical school in New York. In his free time he hangs out with his two adorable children and awesome wife, or is out with friends at a bar until 4 am. After graduation we hope to keep Randy and his family around Los Angeles as long as possible!

Varun Shahi is another native Californian, who was a UCLA Bruin for college followed by Minnesota for medical school. Varun might be the first UCLA graduate on a spaceship one day. He loves space and even did an elective in Florida where he got to be an astronaut for a couple of weeks. We all hope he keeps his feet on the ground and stays in Los Angeles after graduation, but it would also be awesome if he started the first EM program on Mars.

And last but certainly not least, Cate Yaggi. If she was not such an amazing doctor I would say she missed her calling as a stand-up comedian. She is hands down the funniest person in the group and had everyone doubling over with laughter at retreat during her roast of the outgoing 4th year class. Cate is also our Southern Belle and hails from the Lone Star State, but luckily we got her out to California where her husband lives. After graduation Cate plans to stay in the Golden State.

Already this year there have been some exciting new changes. The schedule has been completely revamped to include more 8 and 9 hour shifts, and less of those dreaded 12 hour marathon shifts. There are also more designated teaching shifts for the 4th years, and a new journal club curriculum. We are excited for all the new changes and are looking forward to more over the year to come!

-Team Chief 2019-2020

Can you spot the impostor?
The Council of Residency Directors in EM (CORD) Academic Assembly was held in Seattle, WA March 31-April 3, and this year our program had its biggest presence ever!

Rebecca Bavolek was the chair for the Best Practices Track, and participated in a panel discussion called “Imposter Phenomenon: Getting out of your own way.”

Natasha Wheaton was a lecturer in 3 panels: “Imposter Phenomenon: Getting out of your own way,” “Tricks and Tips for Implementing Foundations,” and “Coaching Residents: Competencies and Insights from Professional Coaches.” She was also awarded the Foundations Impact Award.

Jaime Jordan was awarded a Distinguished Educator Award by the CORD Academy of Scholarship! She chaired the 2 day Medical Education Research Certificate (MERC) program, chaired the Medical Education Research pillar for the Academy of Scholarship, and gave 6 lectures - “Lessons Learned in Medical Education Research,” “A ‘How To’ Guide for Qualitative Analysis: Use, Interpretation, Successful Implementation,” “Pitfalls in Survey Design and How to Avoid Them,” “How to Facilitate a Small Group Session,” “Getting Started in Medical Education Research”, “Education Research Consults Utilizing the ‘Step Back’ Method.” That is not all, she also presented two research abstracts (“Do Personality Characteristics Vary by Gender in Emergency Medicine,” and “Use of the ‘Step-Back’ Method for Education Research Consultation at the National Level: A Pilot Study.”)

Pam Dyne (1995) represented our program as a faculty discussant for the CPC, co-chaired the Faculty Development pillar for the Academy of Scholarship, and attended the CORD Past Presidents lunch.

Andy Grock gave a lecture called “Needle in a Haystack: Finding and Quality Evaluating FOAM.”

Adam Evans (2018) judged the CPC.

Ryan Kunitake (2021) represented our program as a resident presenter for CPC.

Kyle Ragins (2019) gave a talk on Social EM in the EMRA pre-day conference called “Social EM: Where We’re At and Where We’re Going”, and is the inaugural leader of the EMRA Social EM committee.

Hannah Spungen (2022) represented our program at the EMRA representative council meeting and networked extensively (!) with other residents around the country.

Chief residents Varun Shahi (2020), Randy Lee (2020), and Cate Yaggi (2020) attended chief resident programming and networked with other chief residents from around the country.

Residency Coordinators Jennifer Cassidy and Rosa Graziano attended the EMARC programming and networked with other EM coordinators from around the country and were awesome partners in crime for all of us!
Tour de Turtle & Turtle Trek

This year over 200 people participated in the 8th Annual Tour de Turtle and 3rd Annual Turtle Trek. The Tour de Turtle cyclists rode one of three fully supported routes (20 miles, 30 miles or 60 miles) through Elizabeth Lake, Spunky Canyon, and Bouquet Canyon. While this was going on, the Turtle Trekkers walked, ran, or rolled around Camp enjoying games and dancing at various stations. The Tour de Turtle and Turtle Trek are yearly fundraisers for The Painted Turtle Camp. The camp, founded by Paul Newman, is a place where kids with serious medical conditions can just be kids. Many UCLA faculty and residents have volunteered their time at the camp. Jo Feldman a long time supporter and volunteer, was again Medical Director for the fund raising event. Ali Mc Leroy-Wallace (2020), and nurses Susan Thompson and Josephine DeRoon joined Dr. Feldman in providing medical care at the event.

AIDS/LifeCycle 2019

The 2019 AIDS/LifeCycle was the 26th year for the life changing ride. From June 2nd to June 8th, more than 2200 cyclists made the 545 mile ride from San Francisco to Fairfax High. This year participants raised a record breaking (more than) $16.7 million dollars to funds services provided by the Los Angeles LGBT Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Jo Feldman again served as Medical Director for the ride. Mike Casner (2017) decided to switch from being part of the medical provider team to riding this year. He raised more than $16,000. This is a great event to be involved with as rider or part of the medical team.

Community Service Committee in Action

This March the community service committee organized a day of giving at the Hollywood Food Coalition in downtown LA. Vanessa K reger (2020), Haig Aintablian (2022), David Haase (2022), Ashley Vuong (2022), residency coordinators Jennifer Cassidy and Rosa Graziano and APD Natasha Wheaton brought donated items and helped with food preparation and service.
The wellness committee has continued to organize events for residents to explore parts of Los Angeles and spend time together.

A great turn out, with someone from every residency class, attended the March outing at the Comedy Store in Hollywood. We saw Joe Rogan performing stand up and he along with his opening acts were hilarious.

Another great turn out for our wellness Escape Room event! They escaped!

Who needs a formal wellness event to go on a wellness hike with friends? We don’t!

Staying fancy at the LA Opera to see La Traviata. Thanks to Kyle Ragins (2019) and his wife for organizing!

Olive View carpools are still a thing! And the interns just can’t keep up with all the excitement of the morning commute home.

**Toxicology in New Zealand** from Jackie Kurth (2020)

Not sponsored by the Wellness Committee, but certainly a good combination of education and wellness when several members of the class of 2020 were able to coordinate their Toxicology rotation on the same block. New Zealand has become one of the most popular spots to do the third year toxicology rotation, with this year’s class having 8 people go (five of them at the same time)! The toxicology director is great and you learn a lot of exotic things; who knew New Zealand had no venomous snakes and virtually no venomous insects? During your free time there were boundless activities, such as wine tasting at a group of islands just outside of Auckland. Just a few hours drive South of Auckland there are the famed glowworm caves. You and your group repel into a dark maze of caves with the ceiling dotted with iridescent glowworms. It was such a great rotation and amazing country to visit that I can surely say that every single person who went would gladly go back anytime!
IDHEAL Faculty members Breena Taira, Luis Lovato (2001), Aristides Orue, and IDHEAL fellow Hemang Acharya spoke at the First National Symposium on Emergency Medicine in Tegucigalpa, Honduras in May 2019. The project, which is a collaboration between Project SEMILLA (http://projectsemilla.org/) and the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH), is focused on improving the quality of emergency care in Honduras through education of providers. The specialty of emergency medicine does not yet exist in Honduras and there is one trained emergency physician in the country. The collaboration aims to begin specialty training to the university and improve training for general practitioners who are currently working in emergency care settings. During their stay, IDHEAL faculty gave lectures and taught hands on sessions in emergency ultrasound as well as meeting with decision makers in the university, government and prehospital agencies.

Teaching the First Guatemalan EM Residency Class

Sara Crager (2015) is expanding her teaching in the global setting. She has now traveled a couple times to teach providers in the first EM residency class of the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. The collaboration is part of the Innovation + Access in Medical Education (AIME) fellowship that is a partnership between UCLA and EM:RAP. Britt Guest (2019), the first fellow of this new global emergency medicine education fellowship will also be traveling to help build curriculum for the Guatemalan EM residency. On Sara’s second trip she delivered grand rounds at the medical school for the Faculty of Clinical Sciences. The lecture delivered in Spanish ‘Innovación en la educación médica’; Translation = “Innovations in Medical Education” was a new challenge. She also returned to work with the residents teaching ultrasound guided procedures.
Anna Yap (2022) has been busy as an intern but has continued to find time to be involved in policy and advocacy. She was elected AMA Resident and Fellows Section At-Large Officer, and was very active at the AMA meeting this June.

At the AMA Resident and Fellows Section meeting Anna was a delegate from California and the Logistics Chair for the meeting, helping with the reference committee reports and testimony on the floor. At that meeting, she was elected by national delegates to the governing Council as the At-Large Officer. Highlights here for the RFS meeting: https://www.ama-assn.org/member-groups-sections/residents-fellows/2019-rfs-annual-meeting-highlights

At the larger House of Delegates (HOD) meeting, after the smaller Resident and Fellows meeting, she was a delegate to the house from the Resident Section and from the American Association of Public Health Physicians, whom she has been working with for many years. That’s where she worked to pass a resolution and policy for pipeline programs - she was lead author on the policy that passed through California and was forwarded to the AMA and passed with full support from the delegate voting body. “Yap A, Walker V, Washington J. (2019, February). Tracking Outcomes and Supporting Best Practices of Health Pipeline Programs.” The HOD directed the AMA to write a white paper on the various pipeline programs throughout the country and ask them to work with the AAMC and other groups on best practices for pipeline programs. More details about that resolution, now policy: https://ama.smh.re/Mt

While working at the AMA meeting in June she got to hang out with Policy folks! Two other EM providers were also voted into the Resident and Fellows Governing Council meeting. (Scott Pasichow, Christopher Libby). In addition to contributions to the resolutions, she also got to hang out with Senator Pan and Surgeon General Jerome Adams working on public policy!

Other resolutions she is helping to promote as resident member at the AMA:
- Affirm health and health care as a basic human right
- Advocating Medicaid should cover “fourth” trimester and beyond
- Advocating the AMA should have an official encompassing policy that opposes war crimes
- Taking a stand on access to contraception and family planning services, especially for some of the most vulnerable among us
- Allowing minors to consent for vaccines
- Working to move the needle on single payer, based on a resolutions some medical students and Anna wrote while she herself was a medical student
- Working to find new ways to stem the tide of the opioid crisis, and adequately resource both emergency and recovery therapies, including increasing naloxone availability
- Reducing barriers to transgender care
- Reducing the stigma for physicians getting help for burnout
- Researching causes for physician and medical student suicide
- Fighting for a voice for medical students and residents in improving the Match and its applications, and so much more!
Updates from our Resident Representatives

Haig Aintablian (2022) - AAEM Resident Student Association President

Haig Aintablian (2022) has combined internship with continued work advocating for physicians, as he stepped into his role as AAEM/RSA President. He reports he has been working on several initiatives within AAEM this past year and going forward:

- “We helped prevent the NP independent practice bill from passing in CA and in IN. We’re now focusing our efforts for PA as they also have a similar bill this year. In addition, we’re partnering with the Physicians for Patient Protection group to increase awareness of the forceful efforts the NP lobby is using to push their political agenda despite the potential harms for patients (for some background: the AANP just released a commercial on CNN trying to convince patients to choose an NP over an MD/DO).”

- “We have come out in opposition to the residency application standard Supplemental Video Interview (SVI) and we’re on the AAMC committee overseeing the SVI, which means we may have some significant influence in helping to prevent it’s further implementation. We’re doing our best to prevent unnecessary, poorly studied stressors and bureaucratic hoops from being added to our medical student’s path to emergency medicine.”

- “We’re in deep talks with 3 congress members on introducing our Due Process clause into all DHS funded hospital programs, protecting Due Process rights for all physicians.”

- And last but not least, “We’re increasing awareness of the massive amounts of corporate medical group (CMG) run residency programs opening in recent years. We’re actively lobbying against corporate influence in medical training and have increased our lobbying and PR related budgets this year to help medical students understand what this may mean for their training.”

Hannah Spungen (2022) - UCLA Residency EMRA representative

Our residency EMRA representative Hannah Spungen (2022), attended CORD this year to work on initiatives with other EMRA representatives. This is the first year EMRA brought its resident programming to CORD Academic Assembly. The EMRA Representative Council had members from more than 49 programs working to pass bylaws amendments and resolutions in support of allowing residents to moonlight. Hannah reports, “EMRA worked on resolutions supporting emergency departments being staffed by emergency physicians, largely because some states seem to be moving towards PA/NP autonomy.” In addition to the working meetings there were several EMRA sponsored resident competitions (Quiz Show and Chaos in the ED, MedWar, EMRA Leadership Academy scavenger hunt), and a wellness hike. Hannah will be attending ACEP again this year to continue advocating for residents and emergency physicians.
At this year’s SAEM annual meeting in Las Vegas several faculty and residents presented didactics and abstracts. Jaime Jordan taught at two pre-conference workshops - Medical Education Research Boot Camp: Improve your Education Research and Clinical Teaching Educational Boot Camp: Be the Best Teacher. Dennis Hsieh, IDHEAL member and Harbor UCLA faculty along with several leaders in social emergency medicine presented an advocacy workshop during the pre-conference day as well. Haig Aintablian (2022) represented as AAEM/RSA President participating in several meetings with EM leaders, and other EM organizations. He then joined the AAEM resident dodgeball team - as a T-Rex (dress-up is part of the tradition of the dodgeball teams). Cate Yaggi (2020) presented research from her collaboration with Breena Taira “An Implementation Science Approach to Improving Interpreter Use in the Emergency Department.” Randy Lee (2020) presented his ongoing project with collaborators Alan Chiem, Jackie Shibata, and incoming intern Caitlin Oldenkamp (2023) “Accuracy of Bimanual Pelvic Exam Findings when Compared to Ultrasound Findings in Nonpregnant Patients.” Breena Taira, Dennis Hsieh, Kian Preston-Suni and Moh Saidinejad put a spotlight on the IDHEAL program and social EM with their panel presentation “Health Equity and Emergency Medicine: A Perfect Fit.” Jaime Jordan lectured during the conference on “Developing the Right Question for Medical Education Research,” and presented her research project “The Step-Back Method for Education Research Consultation at the National Level: A Pilot Study.” Alan Chiem got the crowd involved to demonstrate as he taught the “Easter Eggs of Acute Heart Failure.” Rebecca Bavolek, Jaime Jordan, Breena Taira, and Richelle Cooper met with prospective students and fellowship candidates at the residency and fellowship fair where we also saw some alumni recruiting at other tables. We caught up with alumna Tabitha Cheng (2018) presenting one of her EMS fellowship research projects.

July 1 all content from SAEM19 will be open and available online at SOAR — SAEM’s Online Academic Resources. You can download pdf and mp3 files to see the faculty, fellow and resident presentations you missed.
The UCLA School of Medicine AOA class of 2019 invited Dr. Megan Ranney to come and speak at a multi-department combined special grand rounds. Megan Ranney is not an alumni of our program, but she is a noteworthy EM physician a number of us were able to hear speak. She is the director of Emergency Digital Health Innovation Program, UEMF Director of Special Projects; and a faculty member at the Department of Emergency Medicine, Department of Health Services, Policy and Practice, at the Brown University Injury Prevention Center of Rhode Island Hospital. She is also one of the Annals of EM editors, won the 2019 Policy Pioneer Award from ACEP, and she is a member of the SAEM Board of Directors.

She is cofounder and chief research officer at AFFIRM (American Foundation for Firearm Injury Reduction in Medicine), which is a non-profit coalition comprised of healthcare leaders and researchers who seek to end the epidemic of gun violence through research, innovation and evidence-based practice. The organization’s aim is to partner with private sector financial resources in order to fund public health research on gun violence prevention. She inspired the crowd with her talk. For those interested, you can see an NEJM interview with her and read the Perspective #ThisIsOurLane — Firearm Safety as Health Care’s Highway.

#ThisIsOurLane

ALUMNI - Come teach at our conferences: If you will be in Los Angeles and want to lecture at one of our conferences, or teach a small group, email Richelle Cooper (1998).
Graduation 2019

We had an amazing celebration for the graduating residents and fellows of 2019, with family and friends in attendance. We had a special moment of recognition for Scott Votey, who is officially retiring this June…sort of… luckily he will still work a few shifts each month and we can continue to seek his wisdom and mentorship. Special thanks to Jennifer Cassidy, Rosa Graziano and the entire leadership team for their work all year and for making it a memorable night. The residency owes a debt of gratitude to the Antelope Valley Emergency Medical Associates (AVEMA) for their support of the residency and graduation. The faculty advisors honored the graduates by sharing highlights of the residents’ time in our program, and we were again charmed by the talented work of Tom Graham and his slide show tribute to the graduating class.

Jake Lentz was selected by the faculty to receive the Marshall T Morgan Humanism Award.

The Golden Probe ultrasound award of the year went to chief resident Matt Rosen.

We were better because of the chiefs of 2019 - Josh Baugh, Britt Guest, Kellie Kitamura, Matt Rosen. THANK YOU!

Where are the Class of 2019 going?

Josh Baugh - Partners Fellowship in Emergency Medicine Administration at Massachusetts General Hospital

Maria Conradt - Kaiser Napa/Solano county (specifically Vacaville/Vallejo locations)

Li Cui - San Gabriel Valley Medical Center, Monterey Park Community Hospital, and Kaiser Panorama City

Adam Gruner - Vituity in the Chicago area (St. Mary’s and St. Francis’ Hospitals)

Britt Guest - Global Education Fellowship with UCLA and EMRAP

James Jiang - Torrance Memorial Hospital

Kellie Kitamura - Education Fellowship at UCLA

Jacob Lentz - VA West Los Angeles and Fairview Lakes Medical Center in Wyoming, MN

Jason Lu - Long Beach Emergency Medicine Group (St. Mary’s Medical Center and Little Company of Mary in San Pedro)

Michael Merjanian - Administrative Fellowship with EMA with a Master of Medical Management from USC Marshall, (clinical time at Valley Presbyterian and Tarzana Hospitals)

Kyle Ragins - Kaiser West LA and California Hospital, as well as Administrative position with LA County DHS (performance improvement for DHS urgent cares and helping set up a new urgent care site)

Matt Rosen - Antelope Valley Hospital and Cottage Hospital

Congratulations to the Graduating Fellows of 2019

Education Fellow Adam Evans will be working part time around the city, including OVMC.

Wilderness Medicine Fellow Brandon Endo will be continuing his pursuit of wilderness medicine from his new boat in Alaska, while trying to pay for it by working per diem at UCLA and AV

Ultrasound Fellow Andie Takemoto will be continuing to teach ultrasound and work clinically at Olive View. Also, because she enjoys paperwork and endless credentialing documentation, she is working at an additional two sites part time (the VA and Kaiser). She is looking forward to residents not asking her to do their ultrasounds for them now that she’s done with fellowship.

National Clinician Scholars Fellow Tarak Trivedi will work clinically at the VA, UCLA, and Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, while continuing research in in psychiatric emergencies, transportation safety, and social emergency medicine.

National Clinician Scholars Fellow Shaw Natsui will head East to join NYC Health + Hospitals, the nation’s largest public hospital system. He will work clinically at the 11 ED sites, and as Director for Emergency Medicine Innovation he will focus on quality, operations, data governance, and care delivery models.
Meet the Intern Class of 2023

Name: Agatha Brzezinski

Undergraduate School: University of Portland

Graduate School: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Medical School: Harvard Medical School

Before Intern year you can find me: backpacking in the Adirondacks or on a road trip hopping between National Parks all the way from Maine to California.

My hidden talent is: playing golf, speaking foreign languages and baking great pecan pies.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: with my fiancé, likely hiking, backpacking, golfing, cooking, baking, visiting museums and historical sites, spending time at the beach, or doing anything else to be out of the house.

The greatest meal I ever had was: Christmas dinner in Warsaw, Poland with my mother, brother, and grandparents when I was five. My mother made a roast duck stuffed with apples, which was simply phenomenal. It turned into a new tradition for us!

I'm really looking forward to the beaches, excellent food scene, hiking, amazing weather, museums and hanging out with my co-interns when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Benjamin Chan - “Ben”

Undergraduate School: Georgia Institute of Technology

Graduate School: University of Miami

Medical School: University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: either lounging at the beach or in my bed watching Netflix.

My hidden talent is: hoarding tabs on my web browser that I promise myself I’ll read later.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: exploring places to eat then guiltily going to the gym so I can go to more places to eat later.

The greatest meal I ever had was: Kaiseki ryōri while in Kyoto, Japan.

If I knew I could not fail I would: attempt making croquembouche (cream puff tower) again. My last attempt for a friend’s birthday was so pitiful my friend was in tears laughing at the final result.

I’m really looking forward to having real Asian food again when I am in Los Angeles. Miami has good food…just not good Asian food.

Name: Michelle Choi

Undergraduate School: University of Virginia

Medical School: University of Virginia School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: Day hiking the Blue Ridge Mountains, drinking wine with friends and spending time with loved ones, trying new recipes, binge watching GoT and everything on Netflix.

My hidden talent is: I can sleep anytime, anywhere, and in almost any position (talent or curse, you decide).

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: Exploring the city and outdoors through my camera lens, trying new eats, hiking, and checking out local shows/concerts.

I could not live without my: Camera, family, friends.

I'm really looking forward to immersing myself in the art/culture scene, sunbathing on the beach, and most importantly eating my way through the city (!) when I am in Los Angeles.
Meet the Intern Class of 2022

Name: Nathaniel Coggins
Undergraduate School: University of Michigan
Medical School: David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Before Intern year you can find me: in Costa Rica and Mexico trying to learn Spanish, and spending time with family and friends.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: trail running, biking or surfing. That said, if you thrown some Vulfpeck (my favorite funk band), then I’m not going anywhere.

The greatest meal I ever had was: a street food crawl in Bangkok. Or pistachio ice cream.

I could not live without my: Kindle. Go paperless, you won’t regret it.

If I knew i could not fail I would: open a restaurant that hosts chefs from around the world and only charges patrons what they can afford.

Name: Micaela Finnegan
Undergraduate School: University of California, Berkeley, College of San Mateo, CA
Medical School: Stanford University School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: climbing in the West and Southwest and learning to paraglide.

My hidden talent is: Knitting. It’s not so hidden, but it seems to surprise most people.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: Halfway up a rock face, soaring along ridges, jumping out of planes or learning to sail.

The greatest meal I ever had was: Noodles. Any kind, from anywhere. Just more noodles please!

I’m really looking forward to learning to sail and eating all the amazing food when I am in Los Angeles.

Name: Ethan Forsgren
Undergraduate School: Macalester College
Graduate School: Harvard Kennedy School of Government
Medical School: University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: driving through farm fields in Iowa.

My hidden talent is: singing along with the radio.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: buying furniture with my wife, Nicole.

I could not live without my: tool roll. I got it for my bike, but I use it for everything. Ask me about it.

I’m really looking forward to using the word “Angeleno” when I am in Los Angeles.
Name: Anthony (or Tony) Fredericks
Undergraduate School: Occidental College
Graduate School: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Medical School: Keck School of Medicine of USC
Before Intern year you can find me: In Australia, Mexico, South Africa and Botswana, driving around in a 4x4 and getting stuck in the sand while looking for places to set up a tent. Or back home in San Diego, walking my dogs and making pizza with my mom.
My hidden talent is: I’m really good at splitting a bill in an equitable fashion, which is both a blessing and a curse.
When not in the hospital I’m most likely: climbing, cooking, or running/biking; pretty much anything that avoids sitting still.
The greatest meal I ever had was: the complete tasting menu with wine pairings at Addison with my dad, as a joint birthday gift to ourselves.
If I knew I could not fail I would: definitely quit my job and try to hike the Greater Patagonian Trail in a single push. Or just move to Copenhagen, be unemployed, and live my best life.

Name: Jared Marshall
Undergraduate School: Pennsylvania State University
Medical School: Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University
Before Intern year you can find me: Eating my way through Barcelona and Madrid, getting sunburned in Mexico, hanging out with close friends and family on the East Coast before the big move!
My hidden talent is: After a few Manhattans I suddenly have the ability to moonwalk.
I’m really looking forward to: trying out all the different delicious foods, becoming amazing at giving people directions, the weather (!!!!) when I am in Los Angeles:
The greatest meal I ever had was: a multi-course dinner in a traditional Japanese home in Takko-Machi…I still think about one garlic beef dish and feel an inner peace.
I could not live without my: Spotify playlists
If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: Why waste time say lot word when few word do trick?

Name: Caitlin Oldenkamp
Undergraduate School: UC San Diego
Medical School: David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Before Intern year you can find me: in Japan!
My hidden talent is: playing saxophone and ukulele.
When not in the hospital I’m most likely: at the movies, eating ice cream, or pursuing my latest obsession (Lately I’ve been Marie-Kondo-ing my apartment, taking spin classes, and writing a med school parody-- but we’ll see what next week brings).
I could not live without my: tea.
If I knew I could not fail I would: be the next Weird Al.
Meet the Intern Class of 2022

Name: Benito Pascua - “Niko”

Undergraduate School: University of San Diego

Medical School: University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: Throwing my back out while aggressively Zumba-ing in my living room, Marie Kondo-ing my collection of tchotchkes from travels and “memory shirts”, and drumming up whatever mischief I can make with others desperately clinging to their twenties. Yas, rosé!

My hidden talent is: The Art of the Undersell - Conveying a sense of helplessness and leveraging my fragile constitution to lead others to believe I have no skill in something at which I am in fact incredible at and in so doing provoke a greater sense of astonishment.

I could not live without my: Music. Call me a stereotype, but show tunes make me feel simply invincible and put such a pep in my step that I find myself skipping gleefully like a child at the entrance of Disneyland on even truly terrible days/shifts.

If I knew I could not fail: Audition for Ru Paul’s Drag Race.

If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: Niko - Let’s have fun this time, kids.

Name: Chase Richard

Undergraduate School: Stanford University

Graduate School: Stanford Graduate School of Business

Medical School: Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Before Intern year you can find me: desperately trying to learn Spanish.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: spending time with friends, watching or playing sports, driving around listening to Frank Ocean, building things or grilling.

The greatest meal I ever had was: tapas with my brother in Barcelona.

I could not live without my: watch, cell phone, bluetooth speaker, and my good hoodie.

Name: Santano Rosario

Undergraduate School: Rice University

Medical School: Keck School of Medicine of USC

Before Intern year you can find me: traveling through Europe.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: working out, boxing, or listening to live music with friends.

The greatest meal I ever had was: my mom’s fried chicken.

I’m really looking forward to putting aside my allegiance to the Hyphy Movement and embracing the SoCal lifestyle when I am in Los Angeles.

If I knew I could not fail I would: go wingsuit BASE jumping.

If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: Go for Rosario.
Meet the Intern Class of 2022

Name: John Mark Sawyer - “John Mark”
Undergraduate School: Clemson University
Medical School: Medical University of South Carolina

Before Intern year you can find me: getting one last taste at all of my favorite restaurants in Charleston, spending as much time as possible with my closest friends, and Marie Kondo-ing my life.

My hidden talent is: I make excellent comfort food—biscuits, fried chicken, grits—southern stuff.

The greatest meal I ever had was: the family style meal at Trattoria Lucca in Charleston, with family. That’s not to diminish the many fantastic experiences I’ve had at a hot dog and fries joint called Red Hot Ranch in Chicago.

I could not live without my: not normally sentimental, but I couldn’t live without my very interesting friends who I’m requiring to visit me often when I’m far away.

If I knew I could not fail I would: well that takes all the fun out of it, but, as a matter of public service, I would run against Trump in 2020.

I’m really looking forward to all the sunshine I’ve heard about and all of the West Coast attractions I’ve had limited access to in my life when I am in Los Angeles.

Name: William Scheving - “Will”
Undergraduate School: Brown University, Providence, RI
Medical School: Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: in Spain.

My hidden talent is: candle making.

The greatest meal I ever had was: Catbird Seat, Nashville, TN.

I could not live without my: stand mixer.

I’m really looking forward to lounging on the beach when I am in Los Angeles.

Name: Dong-han Yao “Dong”
Undergraduate School: UC Berkeley
Medical School: Icahn School of Medicine Mount Sinai

Before Intern year you can find me: struggling to communicate and experimenting with new gut microbiota in various Spanish-speaking countries. Wringing every cent out of my NYC unlimited subway pass.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: Napping. Cooking Asian Food. Plotting my next weekend getaway.

The greatest meal I ever had was: cheap omakase at Tsukiji fish market in Tokyo (I might be misremembering how good it was... we had to stand in line for 8 hours, at 3am, in the rain).

I could not live without my: I feel obligated to say family and friends, but it’s probably really coffee.

If I knew I could not fail I would: a Formula One driver.

I’m really looking forward to meeting my new EM family when I am in Los Angeles.
Bootcamp and Intern Orientation

The class of 2023 has just joined but we have already got them busy learning more about the program and all the nuts and bolts to success during internship. Don’t worry it is not all work, we continue our legacy of working to make our program carry the tradition of family and encourage time for the interns to get to know their classmates, the other residents and the faculty, and for us to get to know them. The residency coordinators, PD and APDs, and chiefs work double time during this busy part of the year. The help of additional residents, faculty and fellows made the training a great success. This year the leadership team implemented some new features of bootcamp, including community service with a night volunteering at the Salvation Army. Each of the other classes had social events with our new R1s. Class of 2022 bought UCLA shot glasses, and hemoccult developer for the interns. The new interns serenaded the class of 2020 at the R1-R4 social, I hear there might be some candidates to join Gravely Disabled.
Growing Families - Congratulations to Everyone!

Maria Conradt (2019) and husband Chris are smitten with their daughter Amelia Coralie.

Adam Gruner (2019) and wife Lindsay have new daughter Tierney Marie rocking her UCLA EM residency onesie.

Alumna Carmen (Wolfe) Igleheart (2015), husband Ryan and brother Wolfe Bridwell welcomed baby sister Linden Rae.

Congrats to Heather and Tom Akie (2021) and big brother Oliver who welcomed Joselynn Marie.

Vanessa Franco (2017), husband Ranmal, and big sister Eliya are thoroughly enjoying new edition Noralie.

Alumni Updates- The class of 2018 was busy getting married!

Sneha Shrestha (2018) married Anthony Kaveh on May the 4th be with you. Many former residents were able to attend including Jess Oswald (2018), Alex Dyer (2018), Steff Brenman (2017) and wife Liz, David Morales (2018) as storm trooper.

Brandon Endo (2018) and Jennifer Phan got married this June 2019 with many alumni from class of 2017, 2018, 2020, faculty, as well as current and former scribes in attendance.

Adam Evans (2018) and Anita Wong, with many UCLA alumni, current residents and scribes also present.
**Class of 2022:** Most of the class (Michelle Brennan, Genie Como, Alex Daguanoo, Lizzie Ferreira, David Haase, Jimmy Murphy, Anna Nguyen, Hannah Spungen, Peter Treut and Ashley Vuong) spent the week between completing intern year and starting R2 year on a class trip to Cabo. Haig Aintablian travelled through Europe including Ireland and Italy (Florence was his favorite city) to see where his father grew up and studied...David Haase went scuba diving in Hawaii with sea turtles...John Keller went to Seoul for a friend's wedding in June! Amazing time. Shopping, arcades, and karaoke basically 24/7...Anna Yap went to Big Bear, to Catalina, and to Chicago where she got to enjoy a meal at Alinea (a 3 star Michelin restaurant)!

**Class of 2021:** Jessa Baker went home to Hawaii for her vacation...Claudie Bolduc went skiing in Mammoth...Theresa Cheng and her family went on a jaguar spotting safari in Brazil (and it was a success as you can see from the requisite jaguar photo)...Nate Friedman got a new puppy, his name is Otis Ketamine Friedman and he is a mutt of unknown significance...Caroline Humphreys continued to explore LA's many day hikes, and decided to take it easy on vacation - she visited family and friends in northern California, then Cape Cod, then New York and Washington DC where she ran into Haig who was there for an AAEM policy event...Daniel Ichwan went to Maine to enjoy plenty of seafood, a quiet relaxing retreat, and being surrounded by plenty of trees and beaches...Ryan Kunitake found a new waterfall to hike - Escondido Falls in Malibu...Naseem Moridzadeh moved to a new apartment in Santa Monica with a view of the ocean off her balcony...Jason Singer traveled to Hawaii (Maui) for the first time and can't wait to explore more of the islands...Kevin Wroblewski had an amazing trip to Spain with a great friend, he ate tons of tapas and pintxos, and explored some of the cities and countryside.

**Class of 2020:** Aws Al-Abdullah participated in his first ever Hollywood TV show recording. His group got randomly selected to sit on stage with the host and the guests. Be sure to tune in to The Late Late Show with James Corden on July 25th to catch us being forced to clap nonstop in the background.Steven Bolger went to Miami and worked on his ginger tan....Tyler Haertlein took a mini vacation in Baja California, just south of Rosarito, to explore some surf, vineyards and tequila distilleries and enjoy some great restaurants in Tijuana....Vanessa Kreger traveled to New York in May and enjoyed watching all the spring flowers bloom, and then spent a few days relaxing poolside in Palm Springs. On her days off from work, she has been hiking and exploring the trail network in the mountains of Griffith Park...Jackie Kurth went on safari to in Africa...Randy Lee and family travelled to visit family on Philadelphia and celebrate some Austin’s first birthday... Ali Lewis travelled to Mexico City...Teri Miller recent celebrated with Brandon Endo (2018) and Adam Evans (2018) weddings... Varun Shahi traveled to Yosemite, Michigan, NY and toured Space X with Dr. Feldman and colleague Dr. Menon....Greg Tong went to Northern California to help celebrate with many in the UCLA family attending Brandon Endo’s wedding.
Check out Sara Crager’s (2015) new series on EM:RAP!

Hannah Wallace (2019) was selected as the annual recipient of the prestigious national Clerkship Director in Emergency Medicine (CDEM) Resident Teacher Award. Hannah was selected for her demonstrated excellence and interest in teaching/precepting medical students, scribes, and peer teaching. She was surprised with the announcement of the award at graduation, and was able to share the moment with her wife Ali Mcleroy-Wallace (2020), family and her childhood best friends in attendance.

ICU Fundamentals - A New Series on EM:RAP

ICU Fundamentals is the first installment of our “Fundamentals” series, which is designed to explore complex concepts in simple, easy-to-understand video lectures. Your teacher for this course is the exceptional Dr. Sara Crager. Double-boarded in EM and ICU and a natural educator, we couldn’t think of a better person than Dr. Crager to teach this course. This is the first of many such lectures, so stay tuned for more. And remember, like always, this is all part of your EM:RAP subscription!

Rebecca Bavolek was one of four UCLA Health System physicians asked to speak at the Spring 2019 American Medical Women’s Association event. She, along with physicians from medical specialties including Cardiology/Research, Radiology, and Anesthesia/Regional Pain management, participated in a panel discussion and answered questions for UCLA undergraduate students who are premed bound on what a career in medicine entails and what challenges they faced as female physicians, especially working in an academic medicine environment.

KUDOS to Our Amazing Faculty, Residents and Alumni


Hannah Wallace (2019) was selected as the annual recipient of the prestigious national Clerkship Director in Emergency Medicine (CDEM) Resident Teacher Award. Hannah was selected for her demonstrated excellence and interest in teaching/precepting medical students, scribes, and peer teaching. She was surprised with the announcement of the award at graduation, and was able to share the moment with her wife Ali Mcleroy-Wallace (2020), family and her childhood best friends in attendance.

IDHEAL fellow Hemang Acharya’s published a viewpoint “Homeless Law Tough to Implement, but EDs Should Help Vulnerable Patients” about California’s SB1152 (Homeless ED/hospital discharge requirements) in EM News.
David Talan (1986) was invited to participate in a cool twitter-based journal club this May 2019. Study authors answer questions and engage in a dialogue over 2 days with journal club members. He was discussing his recent systematic review on the conservative treatment of appendicitis. Check it out. twitter EAST Journal Club @EASTjournalclub.

Dave along with Bill Mower (1990), and Greg Moran (1992) are leading the CODA trial, the largest RCT comparing antibiotics and surgery for uncomplicated appendicitis. Olive View is the highest enrolling of the 25 sites.

This spring our undergraduate research volunteer members of our Emergency Medicine Research Associates Program designed research questions and performed their own sub analyses of data from ongoing department studies. The students, with a very small amount of guidance, created fantastic posters and presented their work during the UCLA undergraduate research poster day at Pauley Pavilion.

Anna Yap (2022) was not only selected AMA Resident and Fellows Section At-Large Officer, she was elected to be a Cal ACEP board member, is the Cal ACEP/EMRA President and was also elected to the LA County Medical Society Board.

Matt Waxman (2007) has continued his global work as Medical Director for NYC Medics Global Disaster Relief. He coordinated and provided remote medical direction for an assessment team to Mozambique after Cylcone Idai, he is working to secure a 3 million dollar emergency response grant for EMS training and trauma coordination in Aden, Yemen, and he is working with Direct Relief International in Santa Barbara in WHO Emergency Medical Team Type I Verification.

Eric Savitsky (1995) presented at IMSH 2019 on a project created jointly with UCLA CRESST “Simulation-Based Assessment of Ultrasound Skills using Visualization of Performance.” In addition, he completed a collaboration with the AIUM Task Force: “Fundamentals for Ultrasound-Guided Procedures Curriculum.” This curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive outline for healthcare providers interested in learning and achieving competency in utilizing ultrasound to guide a variety of procedures. The team assembled to draft this curriculum is intentionally multi-specialty, encompassing a broad range of experience and practice settings.

Kudos to our amazing resident educators. Each year at retreat the clerkship director presents an award to the residents who receive the most positive mentions and comments in the medical student sub-interns rotation evaluations. These awards represent excellence in teaching. This year the awards went to Hannah Wallace (2019), Luiz Souza-Filho (2020), and Daniel Ichwan (2021).

The Golden Olive Teaching Award was presented at the Spring retreat. These Annual awards are voted on by the residents for the contributions to teaching. The award for the full time faculty went to Amir Rouhani (2011) and the award for the part time faculty went to Caleb Canders (2016).

Dave Talan (1986) wrote an article for ACEP NOW. "How emergency physicians can advocate for vaccination. FAQs for the Anti-Vax." in which he advocated ED docs discuss vaccination with parents/patients who have not been vaccinated. The article came out right before the US measles epidemic, which lead to a lively MD anti-vax rebuttal and separate response (Physician-Reader Takes Issue with Vaccination Article, Author Responds).

Andy Grock presented a poster at CCME “A systematic review of online resources.” He also lectured at the American Academy of Emergency Medicine’s 25th Annual Scientific Assembly “Syncope 1-2-3.”


The UCLA Ronald Reagan | Olive View Faculty Teaching Award recognizes exemplary involvement in resident education, both at the bedside and through participation in didactic sessions. The faculty who received the most resident votes for the 2018-2019 UCLA/Olive View Faculty Teaching Award – 2nd half are:

Daniel Weingrow, DO at UCLA & Caleb Canders, MD at OV

Congratulations to these amazing teachers!

Sara Crager (2015) was the spotlighted UCLA Health Center faculty on the mednet homepage with a feature article in the UCLA hospital newsletter showcasing her work as lead on the early recognition and rapid response team.

Andy Grock presented a poster at CCME “A systematic review of online resources.” He also lectured at the American Academy of Emergency Medicine’s 25th Annual Scientific Assembly “Syncope 1-2-3.”

Adam Evans (2018) completed the ACEP teaching fellowship this Spring. His project was selected for presentation at the 2019 ACEP Scientific Assembly.

Claudie Bolduc (2021) went to the Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA) meeting in Scottsdale and as part of her work as an EDPMA/EMRA scholar she co-authored an article for EM Resident (the EMRA journal) on proposed payment models for EM physicians.
Matt Waxman (2007) lectured at UC Santa Barbara’s Underserved Medicine course on Humanitarian Disaster Response in Conflict Iraq and Syria with Dr. Samer Attar from Northwestern University Department of Surgery. He lectured at the USC Wilderness Medicine course - “Medical Response in Austere Settings.” He also lectured at the Current Concepts in Pediatric Emergency Nursing conference at UCLA Commons, “Pediatric Trauma Lessons Learned from the Battle of Mosul.”

Indira Gowda, our UCLA Emergency Medicine Informatics fellow, is featured in a new podcast interview on FeminEM.

Matt Waxman (2007) lectured at UC Santa Barbara’s Underserved Medicine course on Humanitarian Disaster Response in Conflict Iraq and Syria with Dr. Samer Attar from Northwestern University Department of Surgery. He lectured at the USC Wilderness Medicine course - “Medical Response in Austere Settings.” He also lectured at the Current Concepts in Pediatric Emergency Nursing conference at UCLA Commons, “Pediatric Trauma Lessons Learned from the Battle of Mosul.”

Ed Chu (2013) continues to work at Indian Health Services on the Navajo Reservation in Tuba City, Arizona, as well as travel for global work. He has worked with OpenArms, several small NGOs and MSF. In 2016-2017 he spent six months working for MSF in Bangui, Central African Republic, which has been entangled in a brutal civil war since 2013. His work there was featured in the Arizona Daily Sun and the Navajo Hopi Observer. He now is focusing all of his global efforts with MSF, and is currently in South Kivu in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, implementing programs to improve health in the country.

David Morales (2018) just finished his Administration Fellowship with EMA, completing an MMM (Masters of Medical Management Degree). He has been attending part time at Olive View, and will continue to work there as well as at EMA contract sites Tarzana Medical Center and Valley Presbyterian Medical Center.

Congratulations to Shamser Samra (2017) and Dennis Hsieh and the other Harbor-UCLA faculty for their work to help trauma victims in Los Angeles. They received a 2 year grant from the California Community Foundation to implement a hospital based violence intervention program at Harbor-UCLA. The group will be partnering with Southern California Crossroads, a community based organization that has been doing work in South LA. He received a separate 2 year grant from the California Victims Compensation Board to develop a “Trauma Recovery Center” which will primarily provide free mental health services to all victims of trauma.

Congratulations to Jessica Oswald (2018) who just completed her pain fellowship and has been hired as faculty, with a joint appointment in the UCSD Emergency Medicine Department and Anesthesia Pain Management.

Congratulations to Roxy Yoonessi-Martin (2010) for being appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to the Emergency Medical Services Commission to represent the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

Congratulations to Ramon (Ray J) Johnson (1984) for being named the 2019 ACEP James D. Mills Outstanding Contribution to Emergency Medicine Award winner. He will be honored at the ACEP Scientific Assembly this October in Denver.

Josh Troke (2015) has been keeping busy working at Antelope Valley and writing for the medical TV drama “The Resident,” earning him his own IMDb page.

Congratulations to Anthony Catalano (2017) who took over as EMS Medical Director for AMR in Santa Barbara. He also provided services as Medical Director for the bicycle race Amgen Tour of California.
More Alumni Kudos


Ashley Sanello (2016) is now Base Station Medical Director for Torrance Memorial and getting to know the EMS side of things from the hospital's perspective. She has been Compton Fire's Medical Director now for a year and a half, which has been a great experience getting to know the paramedics, riding along with them and seeing them grow as providers. There are only 21 paramedics in the department, so unlike the larger departments, it's actually possible to get to know everyone. She is also on the LA County Fire USAR team with Atilla Uner (1997), which she says “has been a blast, learning how to do field amputations while in a confined space.”

Sophie Terp (2012) et al's recent publication in Academic Emergency Medicine was the journal editor pick of the month for May 2019. The article was also featured on the Skeptics Guide to Emergency Medicine podcast.

In addition to growing in his role as USC emergency medicine APD since finishing his research fellowship, Todd Schneberk (2018) will be teaching a health policy course as part of the Gehr Summer Student program at USC.
More Alumni Kudos & News

**Sponsored: How I Found Professional Success and Personal Joy in Medicine**

Today's story comes from Tiffany Hackett, MD. Tiffany has 18 years of experience as an emergency physician and 12 years of experience with Vittance. She serves as Vittance's Director of Leadership and Development, founded Vittance Women in Medicine, and is a former medical director. She's also a wife and mother of two. Talk about doing it all!

In today's post Tiffany shares how she balances her personal and professional lives and how Vittance has helped her grow in both areas.

Tiffany Hackett (2004) was featured on the FemInEM digest April 8, 2019.

**Alumni - Do you have something to share with the UCLA residency and alumni family for the kudos page? Email Richelle Cooper (1998).**

A mea culpa from the newsletter editor as this shout out should have been in the last newsletter. Congratulations to Mike Menchine (2004) for his publication in the journal Science this past year. The publication received a lot of press in several news outlets (Chicago Tribune, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, NPR, STAT, USA Today and many others). “Opioid prescribing decreases after learning of a patient’s fatal overdose. Science, 2018 Aug 10;361(6402):588-590. doi: 10.1126/science.aat4595.”

Mariama Runcie, former UCLA medical student and mentee of Carolyn Sachs (1994), is now a resident at the Brigham and Women's/ Massachusetts General Hospital Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency. While she did not stay with us, she is doing well with many of our UCLA alumni and sent a selfie with Gregg Greenough (1996). The connections we make in our residency and alumni network are amazing!

Joe Chan (2015) was featured on the cover of the hospital mailer for Beverly Hospital in Montebello, CA where he is the ED Medical Director.

ALUMNI RECEPTION at ACEP
Monday October 28, 2019 at 6pm

Look for the save the date email from Jennifer Cassidy and more information on location coming soon.

Are you planning your conference schedule? Come out to see UCLA faculty, IDHEAL faculty, and Alumni lecturing at ACEP:

Fred Abrahamian
Luis Lovato
Diane Birnbaumer
Jeff Tabas
Dennis Hsieh


Polvarapu M, Bolduc C. The acute unscheduled are model: a chance to prove our value. EM Resident July 2019


