

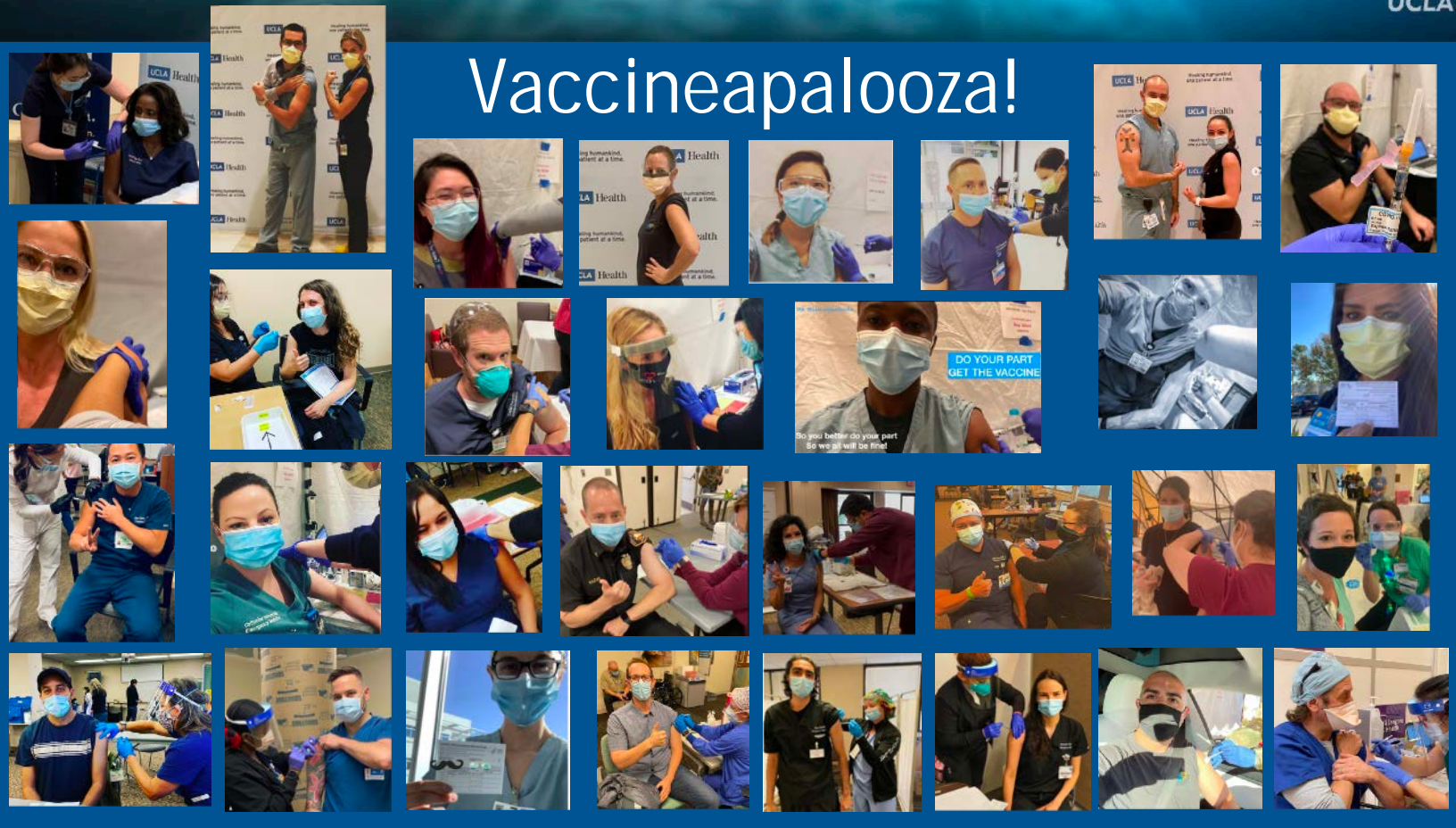


# July 2020- December 2020 Residency & Alumni Newsletter



UCLA

## Vaccineapalooza!



# Message from the Chair



Greetings! It's always interesting to start a newsletter message by reading the previous edition. So much has changed in six months. We are still in the midst of a pandemic, with morbidity and mortality and stretched resources that seem to be peaking now—certainly the worst we have seen. But there is also hope, and maybe light at the end of the tunnel. Most of us have been vaccinated by now, with the rest of the community soon to follow. Easy, weekly COVID testing for our healthcare employees is now available, and hopefully won't even be needed for much longer. It is recruiting season for a new residency class, and maybe by the time they start, much of what we are now enduring will be in our rearview mirrors. **Richelle**

**Cooper (1998)** has put together another terrific newsletter to let you all know what has been happening around our department and program. Here are a few highlights:

Three faculty were recently promoted to Associate Professor - **Medell Briggs-Malonson, Jaime Jordan, and Dan Weingrow**. **Dan Waxman** and **Matt Waxman (2007)** are now full Professors. Congratulations to all of them!

**Medell Briggs-Malonson** has taken on the interim role of Chief of Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion for the UCLA health system.

Once we finish this residency recruitment season, **Kellie Kitamura (2019)** will fully move into the role of Assistant Program Director, adding greatly to our conference and sim experience.

**Pam Dyne (1995)** will move into the new role of Director of Faculty Development for the department, developing resources for promotion activities and creating mentoring relationships for faculty across sites.

**Breana Taira** is now the Director of Social Medicine at Olive View.

**Natasha Wheaton** is the Director for the new Base Camp course for DGSOM.

**Luis Lovato (2001)** is now the Chief Medical Informatics Officer at Olive View.

**Carolyn Sachs (1994)** is our departmental representative for wellness at UCLA Health.

The research coordinators (**Rebecca Beutler, Trisha Agarwal, Julia Vargas**) and our resident research shepherds have been instrumental in conducting our PETAL network studies, and have now pivoted to doing COVID studies, including RED CORAL, ORCHID, and now we have started BLUE CORAL (observational) and ACTIV-4 (randomized comparison of prophylactic vs therapeutic anticoagulation for COVID inpatients). Soon we'll be starting a SIREN study of targeted temperature management after cardiac arrest (ICECAP), which will involve the ED, ICU, our coordinators, and our shepherds.

And let's all give our support and appreciation to our intensivists (**Sara Crager (2015), George Lim, Allison Ferreira (2018)**) who have been working like crazy in the ICU at Antelope Valley. It has been busy and intense, and they have been extremely dedicated and hard-working. The AVEMA partners have been helping them as a rapid response team and residents have been doing ICU electives helping there as well.

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*

# Grateful to Honor Douglas Lowery-North, Reflections from Scott Votey

I learned a lot from Doug Lowery. Based on our roles it was my job to teach and his to learn, but that wasn't how it turned out.

I met Doug in 1987 when he was an intern. He was uniquely gracious. Well-spoken, respectful, and appreciative, he was a genuine Southern Gentleman of fiction come to life.

Doug was a quick study as a resident and became a superb clinician. Working with him was like taking a master class in respect for human dignity. Doug valued everyone and had a unique ability to communicate his respect and concern. Nurses loved Doug, and would make an extra effort for him. Notoriously difficult patients would want to talk to the attending, but instead of complaining they were eager to say how great Dr. Lowery was.

Doug showed a real aptitude for teaching and we were thrilled when he signed on to be our Chief Resident. In those days we had a single Chief Resident who spent a year running the conferences and doing attending shifts. In typical Doug fashion he made the most of it. The residents were his responsibility, and he was going to make darn sure they thrived. That would have been plenty for most people, but not Doug. He lobbied to take on the additional role of the sub-internship Medical Student Course Director for UCLA and OVMC.

A year later we added a new faculty position for Doug in Westwood, hiring him to be the Medical Student Course Director and Associate Program Director. An eager, organized and creative problem solver, Doug was good at residency tasks, but his real focus was on the people. Perennially accomplishing more than seemed humanly possible, Doug might stay up all night preparing for conference the next morning, but he always had time for a resident in need of support. I was a relatively new program director, focused on keeping the program accredited and running smoothly. Doug taught me to focus a little more on people and a little less on tasks.

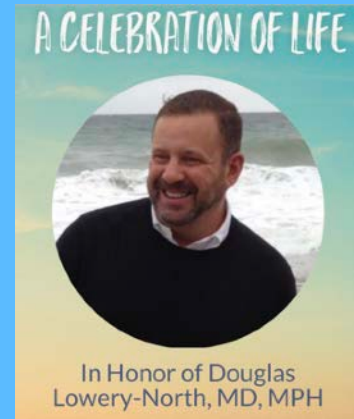
Doug was positive about every medical student and resident, but he didn't overlook their shortcomings. He saw learners with great clarity, but with even greater empathy. To Doug, we were rooting for them, and were committed to helping learners understand and overcome the obstacles on their paths to success. Doug's leadership was a boon to residency recruiting, with students bonding to him and choosing to match with us because of him.

We would have been happy for Doug to spend the rest of his career at UCLA, but he missed his family. So, in 1995, he decided to take a job at Emory to be closer to them. I was disappointed, but I later learned that this was an even bigger blow to two class of 1994 UCLA medical students – Richelle Cooper and Lynne McCullough -- who had matched with us because of Doug, but never had the opportunity to work with him.



# Douglas Lowery-North

Doug's influence on the UCLA/OVMC Emergency Medicine Residency didn't end with his departure for Atlanta. Doug came out during residency, becoming our first openly gay resident and starting us down the path of becoming a LGBT welcoming residency. As a passionate voice in our recruiting efforts, Doug championed "nice" as a characteristic of the applicants we should rank highly. At a time when most programs only focused on pedigree and performance, we de-emphasized pedigree and instead emphasized character, considering how applicants would contribute to the supportive culture we were building. That approach lives on and is widely embraced today.



Doug's life flourished after he left us. He had success after success in his career at Emory. More important to Doug, he was able to spend time with his family, meet Eric, the love of his life, and eventually add two children, Connor and Charlotte, to his family. In 2017, Doug decided he wanted to have more time with his family, so he left his position as Executive Vice Chair of Emergency Medicine at Emory to take a practice job in Bend, Oregon.

To know Doug was to love him. None of us really got to see him enough after he left UCLA. We missed him, but we understood. There just wasn't enough of Doug to go around. We only got to see him occasionally, but each time you saw him, he was sure to hear all about you. He always would talk about the next visit, leaving you something to look forward to. Sadly, that chance is gone. But we can honor Doug by following in his footsteps by trying to be our best selves each day and to bring out the best in others by being kind, empathetic and loving.

We taught Doug a little bit about emergency medicine. Doug quietly taught us how to be better people.

*A reminder to those of you who may have been busy or missed the emails.*

*Doug was a big supporter of nursing throughout his career and beloved by the nurses at each of the places he worked. In honor of this, Fran McCabe (1994) has created a charitable Nursing Scholarship Fund. <https://foundation.stcharleshealthcare.org>. To contribute click on the "Donate" button, and choose the Dr. Lowery-North Nursing Scholarship and Education Fund from the drop down menu or denote IMO Dr. Lowery-North anywhere in notes or a tribute field when making the donation.*

*Fran also took the time to interview Doug and his husband Eric, and they have graciously shared the link for those interested to hear from Doug. <https://vimeo.com/462021994>.*



# Spotlight on Updates from the IDHEAL

Congratulations to Breena Taira who was named Director of Social Medicine for Olive View-UCLA Medical Center. This newly-established role reflects the hospital's commitment to meaningfully addressing social determinants of health (SDoH). In this role Breena will be Olive View-UCLA's representative for Social Medicine coordinating projects and initiatives related to SDoH across clinical departments, identifying approaches to improve clinical outcomes, reduce barriers to access, and ensure a patient-centered environment of care. She is also the recipient of a grant from the California Health Care Foundation to perform "A Formative Evaluation of the Department of Health Services Social Determinants of Health Integration Project." In addition, she recently received a UCLA COVID-19 Award to examine "Novel Strategies to Address Food Security and other Social Determinants during a Pandemic."



Shamsheer Samra (2017) was named the inaugural Structural Racism & Health Equity Theme Co-Chair at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, a key component of the Anti-Racist Roadmap. Shamsheer has served as the course chair for the "Introduction to Social Medicine" selective which has been a very popular within the medical school giving students early exposure to a variety of topics during seminars with experts working in different social domains.

Shamsheer, along with IDHEAL members Dennis Hsieh and Todd Schneberk recently published an important article in the American Journal of Public Health on interpersonal and structural violence during COVID-19.



Second year IDHEAL fellow Hannah Janeway continues to balance her masters coursework, fellowship, and clinical responsibilities with her humanitarian work in Tijuana. She has been an incredible advocate and contributor to our IDHEAL group and to the department's EDI committee, teaching in the residency, and helping with our virtual clerkships. Check out her [interview on the Social EMPACT website](#) highlighting the IDHEAL fellowship. Learn about her work as activist on the Physician Grind, a [NuMose podcast](#), that is "Narrative Medicine ...meant to be a forum where physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals can share stories and experiences." Or if you want to hear about her work in Tijuana where she helps direct the nonprofit [Refugee Healthcare Alliance](#), check out an interview on KPBS (the NPR and PBS affiliate in San Diego, CA) on [apple podcasts](#). You can also read her co-authored perspective published in NEJM that spotlights issues faced by asylum seekers and migrants she treats at the clinic. Her work at the Refugee Healthcare Alliance includes directing the LGBTQIA+ care including gender affirming care for transgender individuals. She is an advocate for all, and in educating providers in providing culturally competent care. For those needing to be improve their competence on this topic read her recent Pediatric Emergency Medicine Practice article "Emergency Care for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children and Adolescents."



Dennis Hsieh, one of our IDHEAL founding members, takes over as the second President of the ACEP Social EM Section. He was selected as one of the EMRA 25 under 45 honorees this year. He recently re-located to take a new job in Northern California as CMO of Contra Costa County.



The upcoming [May 2021 SAEM Consensus Conference](#) is on Social Emergency Medicine. Richelle Cooper (1998), Breena Taira, and Dennis Hsieh contributed to the application and planning with the chairs and are helping to co-lead various sessions along with other IDHEAL members, our current and incoming fellows, including Todd Schneberk, Hannah Janeway, Annette Decker, Anna Darby, and Rose Diaz.

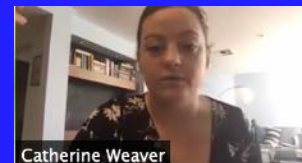


Jackie Shibata, Breena Taira, Hannah Janeway as well as Britt Guest (2019) and Matt Levin (2021), work at the Human Rights Clinic at Olive View, performing forensic medical exams for asylum seekers as part of the Physicians for Human Rights Asylum Network.

# Career Day - Virtually



Thanks to all the alumni who participated in our R4 career day - Thanks to Steven Lai for his planning and input, and to Scott Votey (1987) for his wisdom and experience, in addition to faculty Rebecca Bavolek, Greg Hendey (1993), Pam Dyne (1995), Natasha Wheaton, Jaime Jordan, and Richelle Cooper (1998). It was certainly not the same experience virtually as it has been in the past, but it was good to see so many alumni even if it was only in zoomland... at least we could be mask free. The class of 2021 was very appreciative to hear about academics, community practice, locums, and different practice groups and settings from Joe Chan (2015), Carmen Partida, Won Ki, Lisa Zhao (2011), Cat Weaver (2017), Ashley Sanello (2016), Armando Rodriguez (2016), Noah Sugerman (2016), Jimmy Gordon (2016), Eric Snyder (2008), David Morales (2018), Caleb Canders (2016), Carl Berdahl, and Malkeet Gupta (2006).



## Resident Experience and Electives



Due to COVID-19 all of our resident's away electives and rotations have changed. We are lucky to have many affiliated sites and experiences that can continue, including the EMS elective, ultrasound elective, ICU elective and more. As usual our residents have been creative in developing electives to match their interests and personal educational goals including a med-ed elective that Ashley Vuong (2022) and Ignacio Calles (2022) completed with AIME fellow Britt Guest (2019) and Mel Herbert (1995) along with the EMRAP team.



Claudie Bolduc (2021) and Chelsea Robinson (2022) have taken advantage of the opportunity to do community ICU care at Antelope Valley with our EM/Crit care faculty Sara Crager (2015), George Lim, and Allison Ferreira (2018).



We have been able to continue with small group, appropriately PPE-protected, cadaver lab.



Claudie Bolduc (2021) and Daniel Ichwan (2021) taught the new surgery interns placement of ultrasound guided lines.



# Pediatric EM Fundamentals 2020



About Speakers Schedule Register

Peds EM Fundamentals

2020

Virtual Conference  
September 9, 10, 11

## Pediatric EM Fundamentals A WoopWoop Media Production

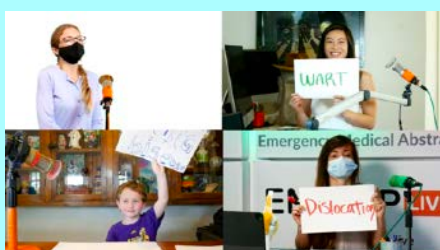
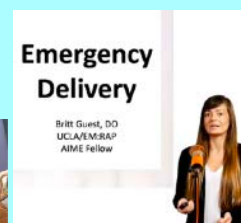
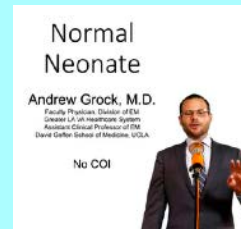
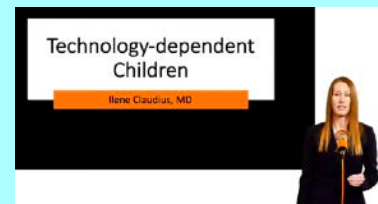
WoopWoop Media is a Division of EM:RAP, Inc.

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The first WoopWoop Media Production, a division of EM:RAP held its first educational event September 9-11, 2020. While the ultimate goal is to have in person conferences, COVID-19 spoiled things again although the team designed the conference to be a cutting-edge event covering the latest and most foundational Pediatric Emergency Medicine concepts and updates. It included many innovative learning techniques to keep the virtual audience engaged including games, faculty panels, outstanding focused lectures, live Q and A in the chat while the lectures aired and some entertaining education from a very bright 6 year old Jacob (you need to go watch), as well as new virtual app technology. If you missed it, check it out on EMRAP and get caught up.

Featured alumni and faculty included Britt Guest (2019), Mel Herbert (1995), and Ilene Claudius (2002) who were the creative team that planned the conference. Additional featured faculty lecturers included Vanessa Franco (2017), Andy Grock, Michael Levine, Tom Graham (1995) and Medell Briggs-Malonson. Residents Ashley Vuong (2022) and Ignacio Calles (2022) helped with the production by fielding and collating the chat room questions for the speakers, and participated in the WoopWoop game (guess that baby food, and envenomations trivia with Tom Graham).

As the conference started on day 1 the chat in the live stream exploded with hellos and shout outs and I noticed greetings came in from around the world - Angola, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Guyana, Haiti, Israel, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Kingdom, and of course the USA. It was great to see a couple alumni in the chat room - Jolie Pfahler (1997), Jeff Callard (2011) and our UCLA nurse extraordinaire Kerry Gold. I know there were more of you that watched, but you were maintaining your anonymity, and not in the chat. There were more than 5000 live attendees, and even more that watched the videos on demand. A great success for the team, and special recognition for WoopWoop CMO Britt Guest on her first major conference endeavor in this role. The next event being planned is Trauma Fundamentals, coming April 14-15, 2021.



# Residency Committee Updates

**UCLA EM Advocacy Committee.** We have a new committee, created by residents, with the primary goal to bring awareness of advocacy issues in emergency medicine and the house of medicine to our program. The committee provides residents and faculty the opportunity to contribute to state and national policies and provides education on these matters, as well as provide education about some non-clinical topics. Committee members include Haig Aintablian (2022), Anna Yap (2022), Michelle Brennan (2022), Reza Hessabi (2024), Charlene Gaw (2024), and faculty Natasha Wheaton, Kimon Ioannides, and Mark Morocco (2001). The committee sends a bi-monthly newsletter summarizing the key issues and actions we can take to help advance our specialty - these have included information on state bills being considered, due process, surprise billing, non-physician scope of practice encroachment, overproduction of residencies, malpractice principles, and contract negotiation.

While on the topic of advocacy, kudos to Anna Yap (2022), who continues her incredible work with the AMA. She was selected to be the AMA Digital Senior Fellow (in this role she works with the media team on social media strategies for the AMA). She worked with the AMA to provide support for the Hahnemann residents affected by the closure of the hospital. She worked with the AMA to [release guidance to protect residents during the pandemic](#), including adequate PPE, and supervision. She also helped to pass a number of important policies at the AMA, including a policy combating racism, improving telehealth and internet access for rural communities, mental health access for physicians, student debt relief, and a public option policy, to name a few. [Highlights from the November 2020 AMA Special Meeting | American Medical Association \(ama-assn.org\)](#).

**Social Media Committee.** This year the residents have elevated and improved our social media presence (an important avenue for outreach given all of our quarantine and isolation). There are many residents to thank for contributing images and posts, but special mention goes to Claudie Bolduc (2021), Anna Yap (2022), Michelle Brennan (2022), Haig Aintablian (2022), Lizzie Ferreira (2022), Jimmy Murphy (2022), Niko Pascua (2023), and Ashley Vuong (2022) for their efforts. Check out and please follow us on Twitter @UCLAEMRes and on Instagram ucla\_em.

**EDI committee.** Many faculty and residents have been contributing to our EDI goals this year with the creation of several subcommittees, including (1) Culture and Climate, (2) Resident Recruitment, (3) Community Engagement and Advocacy, and (4) Faculty Recruitment and Retention. Our resident leads have done amazing work for the first three subcommittees. Special thanks to Ashley Vuong (2022) and Jimmy Murphy (2022) for their contributions. The faculty leads for the fourth subcommittee are working to establish best practices and standards to adopt across all of our UCLA affiliated departments. IDHEAL fellow Hannah Janeway has been working with EDI co-chair Medell Briggs-Malonson on policies and interactions with police in the emergency department and we had a townhall with UCPD, followed by an educational segment in our conference on this topic. EDI Committee Co-chair Breena Taira has helped to facilitate several book clubs; we have covered Rising out of Hatred by Eli Saslow, White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo, Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson, and Caste: the Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson. Ignacio Calles (2022) is busy pairing EM faculty with interested undergrads in a longitudinal mentorship experience with the goal of fortifying our undergraduate pipeline. Alex Daguanno (2022) is actively working with the residency recruitment committee efforts, ensuring that faculty and residents who identify with demographic groups underrepresented in medicine, are available to share their UCLA experience with our current applicants. We participated in several SNMA zoom sessions. Special recognition to Chase Richard (2023) for all of his outreach and engagement with SNMA.

**Wellness Committee** - We have a new residency committee focused on wellbeing, and we all could use more of that. The committee recently convened and is planning for quarantine appropriate activities in the new year.





# Virtual Cal ACEP - AdvancED September 25, 2020

As with everything in 2020, virtual conferences and webinars have allowed us to continue to connect and learn. Congratulations to our many faculty and the education leadership team who were instrumental in the planning and success of a great conference. Natasha Wheaton was the Conference Vice Chair and a member of the Residency Fair subcommittee. Additional planning committee members include Andy Grock who was the Poster Session Track Chair and Steven Lai (2016) who was part of the Resident Track subcommittee.

Mel Herbert (1995) delivered the keynote address about the the COVID pandemic.

Antelope Valley Emergency Medicine Associates partner Michael Gertz chairs the CalACEP awards committee, which includes our own resident member Anna Yap (2022). The Annual CalACEP awards included recognition for three of our faculty, alumni, partners and former faculty.

Congratulations to Atilla Uner (1997) for winning the Key Contact Award given to *“a member who has contributed significantly to Chapter activities by serving as a primary contact or facilitator for meetings and outreach with outside organizations and the important contacts, especially those related to Chapter advocacy efforts.”* ....

Congratulations to AVEMA partner Daniel Khodabakhsh for winning the Humanitarian Award, given to *“a member who has dedicated or volunteered a significant amount of their time and expertise to the service of the underserved patients or those affected by disasters or significant world events.”*

Congratulations to friend and former OV-UCLA faculty member Rais Vohra for winning the House of Medicine Award, given to *“a member who has significantly improved the standing and influence of emergency medicine within the house of medicine and done so through their leadership within and among other organizations, especially other specialty societies, medical societies, and state and national health care organizations.”*

At the Medical Student track, Stephen Villa, Max Berger and Kellie Kitamura (2019) presented “How to Make your Application Awesome,” geared to the 1st-3rd year medical students.

At the virtual residency fair there were individual break out rooms/zooms with 22 of the 23 California EM residency programs represented. Rebecca Bavolek and Natasha Wheaton met with interested medical students.

The Poster Track Session included one minute videos by presenters to describe their project. Chase Richard (2023) won the award for best on screen performance at the poster session. Additional abstracts were presented by UCLA EMIG leader Louie Wang, along with faculty George Lim, and from our VA colleagues including alumni Lisa Zhao (2011).

1. Chase Richard. A Virtual Book Club for Professional Development in Emergency Medicine.
2. Louie Wang, George Lim, Tristan Grogan. ECMO Response and Cannulation Times during Day vs. Night.
3. Manuel Celedon, Tiffany Fan, Jonie Hsiao, Zahir Basrai, Lisa Zhao, Kian Preston-Suni, Kathleen Yip, Neil Patel, Kristina Cordasco. Interactive Provider Decision-Support Tool for Management of Undifferentiated Patients Presenting to a COVID-19 Tent.



**ADVANCED**  
**INSPIRED**

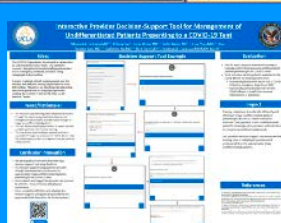
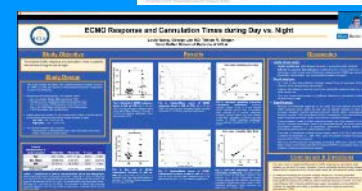
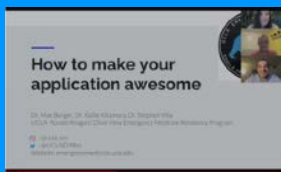
> CALIFORNIA ACEP'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2020  
Education is targeted to Medical Students and Residents, but all are welcome to attend.

Friday, September 25, 2020 | Virtual

Conference Planning Committee:  
Jessica Mason, MD; Natasha Wheaton, MD; Xian Li, MD; Anneli von Reinhart, MD; Andy Grock, MD; Jason An, MD; Maddy Alexeeva, DO; Gina Hana; Kishan Patel; Steven Lai, MD; Linda Herman, MD; Danny Udrea, MD; Haley Manella, MD; Tiffany Fan; Ellen Kettler

Name: Natasha Wheaton, MD  
Title: Conference Vice Chair  
Bio: Dr. Wheaton is the Associate Program Director and Clerkship Director at UCLA Ronald Reagan/Blue View. She completed medical school at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and her emergency medicine residency at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Mel Herbert, MD, FACEP, FAAEM  
Keynote Speaker  
Dr. Herbert is an internationally recognized leader in education. As the founder and CEO of EM-RAP, he grounds the program with humor, insight and the knowledge that emergency medicine is the best and hardest specialty, but one that really matters.



# Spotlight on our MedEd Team & Resident Ed Committee

There has been a lot that has changed with COVID-19, but as with last year we continue to adapt. While always busy, the extra coordination for everything on zoom adds another layer of complexity for those who plan and execute the work to make it seamless for us. There has been a lot of work behind the scenes and resident involvement in a number of activities that deserve special mention and shout outs. In fact, as I prepared the newsletter the number of kudos that came in for people who have contributed to our educational program, and the amazing contributions from the residents far outstripped other emails.

A thank you and major acknowledgement for Kellie Kitamura (2019) and Steven Lai (2016) who continue to excel in making our zoom conferences engaging and interactive, and our chief residents (Tom Akie, Nate Friedman, Caroline Humphreys, Daniel Ichwan) who create the Kahoot recap and have led conference during recruitment season. A thank you to our faculty, alumni, part-timers, and our UCLA Department West Los Angeles VA faculty who have helped teach Foundations.

The entire program leadership team, medical education fellows and resident medical education and recruitment committees have worked incredibly hard to revamp the medical student experiences. Since only UCLA medical students could do subls with us due to COVID-19 restrictions on away rotations the team established a new rotation for rotators from other medical schools. Natasha Wheaton, Andy Grock, Stephen Villa and several residents helped to create a 2 week virtual advanced EM elective, with 65 faculty facilitators and 130 teaching hours. They ran two of these 2 week virtual electives, enrolled a total of 26 students and it was extremely well received. The elective used small group instruction and was structured with Advanced Core EM topics in the morning (using case based teaching from Foundations) and Social EM & Advocacy (using the IDHEAL teaching modules) as well as Professionalism sessions in the afternoon. From the faculty leads, *“Special shout out to all the residents who helped teach during our Virtual Curriculum. This especially goes out to Ashley Vuong (2022), Taylor James (2024), and Ignacio Calles (2022) who poured a TON of time into their specific portions of the curriculum and did amazing work.”* The faculty and residents of the MedEd Resident Committee have a poster presentation and a manuscript in draft describing the new course and format. (Vuong A, Calles I, Grock A, Murphy J, James T, Wheaton N, Villa S. EM-CO-VID (Emergency Medicine-Cooperative Virtual Delivery) Learning. Poster presentation at International Medical Education Conference. Los Angeles CA.)



Image from New Year's Jan 2020 (pre covid)

Special recognition for APD Natasha Wheaton who was selected to be the inaugural Director of the Base Camp Course at the David Geffen School of Medicine. Base Camp is a key component of the curricular redesign that will launch in August 2021; it is a 4-week course to prepare first year medical students for the pre-clerkship curricular components (i.e. Early Authentic Clinical Experience / Scientific Foundations of Medicine / Foundations of Practice). Components of Base Camp include but are not limited to: Social Determinants of Health, Ethics/Professionalism, Basic/Introductory Clinical Skills, and Essential Basic Science concepts. Dr. Wheaton will collaborate with the Directors of Scientific Foundations of Medicine, Foundations of Practice, Early Authentic Clinical Experience and the Structural Racism and Health Equity Theme Chairs to make sure DGSOM students have a firm grounding in foundational topics heading into the next phases of the curriculum. In addition to this role, and her role as APD, Natasha continues to be Chief Operations Officer of Foundations of Emergency Medicine.

Several members of the Educational Leadership team were instrumental in CalACEP ADVANCED, and presented at the conference. The work Chase Richard (2023) presented as an abstract at CalACEP has been formally written up and is In Press. (Jordan J, Bavolek R, Dyne P, Richard C, Villa S, Wheaton N. A Virtual Book Club for Professional Development in Emergency Medicine. Western Journal of EM.). The APDs, PD, and MedEd fellows also have several abstracts submitted for CORD 2021.

Natasha Wheaton, has been working with the MedEd resident committee and partnering with the UCLA undergraduate research volunteers EMRA (Emergency Medicine Research Associates) program to provide peer mentorship for medical school admissions. The resident recruitment committee and PD leadership team are also working to create a pipeline mentorship program for UCLA undergraduates, especially those who are URIM.

# The MedEd Team & Resident Recruitment Committee

As if recruitment was not hard enough for the applicants, and time consuming for all, a new revamp was needed in COVID-19. A special *“Shout out to Jen Cassidy for revamping the zoom interview process, and for her and Matt Hill keeping the interview days smooth.”*

Both our resident MedEd Committee and the Resident Recruitment Committee have been invaluable to helping the PD leadership team to represent our program and help out all the future EM residency applicants.

Our residents hosted a series of zoom sessions in August and September - resident life and the EM application process, an equity, diversion & inclusion session and a general session. Our social media committee residents created and posted content about our program, the people and alumni. Thanks to Claudie Bolduc (2020) for capturing video of the residents, nurses, faculty and individuals that make our job amazing (check out our instagram). Also on Instagram, Niko Pascua (2023) showed applicants the many great neighborhoods and areas to explore in Los Angeles.



Rebecca Bavolek and the department had already created a video a couple years ago that showcases our program that we have send out to applicants prior to their interview day. The UCLA Health system stepped in this year to help all programs create some brief videos and we took the opportunity to create an additional outreach message. Check out Chase Richard (2023), Ashley Vuong (2022) and Tom Akie (2023) in the video [“Why Choose UCLA Health?”](#)

MedEd fellow Stephen Villa has taken lead on a scholarly project to better inform the application process. The abstract from this work was presented at ACEP, and a manuscript is in development. (Villa SE Jr, Jordan J, Bavolek RA, Cassidy JM, Graziano R, Wheaton N. Residency Applicant Communication Preferences. Ann of Emerg Med 2020;(76(4S):S156. - Congratulations to Jen Cassidy and Rosa for their first academic abstract!)



The residency leadership participated in numerous virtual recruitment events. Additionally many members of the EDI committee and the residency leadership team have been doing outreach with SNMA at several events. Natasha Wheaton organized a women in EM mentoring session specifically for this year’s female applicants and sub rotators with several female faculty. Recruitment is still in full swing with more interview days finishing up January 2021. The residents and PD leadership team organized a trivia night for the residency and invited all the applicants, residents organized socials the night before interviews, residency coordinators Jen Cassidy and Matthew Hill sent welcome packages to the applicants with swag, and we have a faculty meet and greet to match applicants with their niche areas coming up.



The role of everyone (all of the faculty and residents, and our coordinators) in these efforts cannot be overstated. There are however several residents who have put in a great deal of time and consideration that deserve special recognition.

Resident Recruitment Committee: Lizzie Ferreira (2022), Michelle Brennan (2022), and Haig Aintablian (2022) created and recorded a virtual tour; Ashley Vuong (2022) organized the live virtual tours for each week of applicants; Taylor James (2024) organized and sent applicant welcome emails; Michelle Brennan helped with organizing resident-applicant socials.

MedEd Committee: Sub-Is Leaders – Ignacio Calles (2022), John Mark (2023) Taylor James (2024); UCLA EMIG Leaders – Ashley Vuong, Michelle Brennan, David Haase (2022) and Dong Yao (2023); Liaisons to EMRA volunteers – Ashley Vuong (2022) and Michelle Brennan (2022); Mentorship Leaders – Ignacio Calles, Reza Hessabi (2024) and Jessa Baker (2021)

Special thanks to Daniel Ichwan who contributed to many of the recruitment activities and mentoring of our new resident leads, helped run the residency-applicant trivia night, and helped update the residency website.

Additional thanks to Chase Richard who has done an incredible amount of work with respect to EDI. He helped organize UCLA DEM involvement in multiple SNMA related conferences.

# ACEP 2020 Unconventional

We are sorry we did not get to have an alumni event and see everyone this year. As with everything, the annual scientific assembly went virtual.

A big shout out to our program director Rebecca Bavolek who worked incredibly hard as a member of the ACEP Scientific Assembly planning committee (long before COVID-19 hit and transitioning to a completely virtual conference). She also was co-moderator for the Knowledge Bowl Trivia Game, and the Drop the Mic New Speakers Forum.

The Annual ACEP Council met Oct 24-25. Anna Yap (2022) represented CalACEP at the meeting and provided comment on a resolution on the floor. In addition, Valerie Norton (1995) spoke on behalf of resolutions. The In Memory resolution we submitted for Douglas Lowery-North was recognized on the floor, and ACEP will send a framed copy to his family.

Most of the lectures were pre-recorded and semi-live with the speakers in the chat room and answering questions after. The lectures are available On Demand for those that paid registration for the next few months via the ACEP site. If you missed, check out:

- Fred Abrahamian *"Current Recommendations for STI Treatment: Are you Up-to-Date?"* And *"High-Yield Infectious Disease: Fast Facts"*
- Luis Lovato (2001) *"Maintaining your ABEM Certification"* Review of 2020 and Review of 2019 LLSA articles
- David Talan (1986) *"Non-operative Treatment of Appendicitis: Update after Results of the CODA Trial."* And alumni:
- Jeff Tabas (1998) *"Number Needed to Treat: Pinpointing ED Interventions that Matter Most,"* *"Atrial Fibrillation Update 2020: Don't Miss a Beat,"* and a panel - *"The Heart of the Matter - Risk Stratification Tools, Cardiac Imaging, & Latest Treatments: ACEP Connect."*
- Swaminatha ("Maha") Mahadevan (1996) *"Avoiding Intubation in COVID-19: What Works?"*

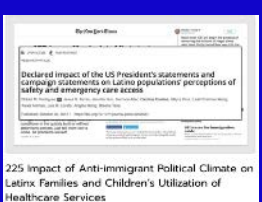
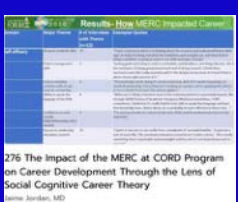
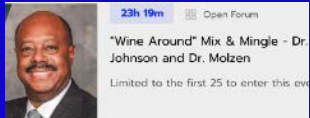
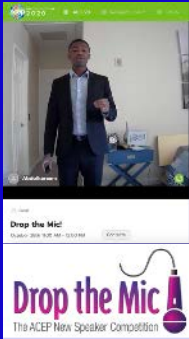
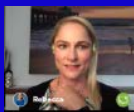
Congratulations to the presenters who had abstracts accepted for the research forum, including Kellie Kitamura (2019), Jaime Jordan, education fellow Stephen Villa, IDHEAL/NCSP fellow Jesus Torres, alumni Rob Rodriguez (1994), and alumna Jess Wall (2015).

At the Research Forum Tyler Barrett (2005) and Richelle Cooper (1998) were part of an ACEP Editor's workshop In a live presentation, *"Tips to Get your Paper through Peer-Review,"* as well as a review with several authors of accepted Research Forum Abstracts.

Jess Oswald (2018) presented *"Target Directed Pain Management Procedures from Head to Toe"* at the ACEP Pain section presentation.

Congrats to ultrasound fellow, Kareem Agunbiade who made it to the Elite 8 of the Drop the Mic competition. Then based on crowd voting...he made it to the final four and the live October 28 presentation. ... and then he won the whole competition. Way to Go! See him speak at next year's ACEP Scientific Assembly.

Alumni "Ray J" Raymond Johnson (1984) participated in a limited admission event "Wine Around" Mix & Mingle event.



# Meet the Fellows coming July 2021

This year our fellowships have grown to incorporate our broader UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine. Our next [IDHEAL fellow](#) will work clinically at both Olive View-UCLA and Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, which is fitting given the IDHEAL faculty group is a true collaboration of individuals from our multiple sites. There are a number of initiatives and community partnerships at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, including medico-legal partnerships, violence intervention programs, substance abuse care, food pharmacy and more. In addition, the ultrasound faculty and fellows in our program have long collaborated with our ultrasound faculty colleagues at Harbor-UCLA on conferences and projects, thus it was a natural extension this year to change our standard approach of a one year ultrasound fellowship. This year we offered a department wide position, the UCLA Affiliated Clinical Ultrasound fellowship which will be a 2 year fellowship with option to complete a

Masters degree, and the fellows will work clinically both at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center and Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.



**IDHEAL Fellow Rose Diaz** attended medical school at UC Davis and is currently completing her residency training at University of Michigan. She started her professional life as a kindergarten teacher where she taught young children for over 10 years. Driven by a desire to help underserved communities, Rose eventually transitioned to medicine to fulfill her lifelong dream of becoming a physician with a goal of serving as a community health advocate for vulnerable populations. Her research interests include reducing health disparities in the Emergency Department, improving the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minorities in medicine, and strengthening ties between providers and their surrounding communities. Rose is a mother of 3 adult children with a passion for cooking and distance running. She is thrilled to be returning to her native Los Angeles and looks forward to trading in her UV Happy Light for the California sunshine. *Check out her [FemInEM Fix2019 talk](#).*

**Ultrasound Fellow Erica Kiemele-Giss** is excited to be joining the UCLA family. A long-lost Bruin, she was born at the UCLA Medical Center and has had many opportunities to return to UCLA, but the timing was never quite right. Erica grew up in Calgary, Canada. She went to the University of Calgary for undergraduate studies and then the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC in pursuit of a PhD before seeing the light and transitioning to medical school. In Vancouver, Erica had some of her most meaningful experiences working at the First Nations House of Learning and Aboriginal Recruitment Department for UBC. During graduate school, she continued her love of dance and took professional dance training programs in jazz and hip hop. Erica attended Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA. After her third year of study she worked with the Harvard University Native American Program and various other indigenous advocacy endeavors that brought her to several Reservations across the USA. Erica will complete her residency just a hop skip over the freeways at LAC+USC Medical Center. In her free time Erica loves to dance and exercise, dancing from ballet en pointe, jazz, tap, Native American traditional styles to wacking and vogue. She is also a 200RYT certified yoga teacher. Erica hopes to help you get moving! She is ecstatic about her commute from her house in Pasadena, where she lives with her husband Charlie, dog Winnie (long haired standard dachshund), two cats Shadow and Patches and a baby girl on the way.



# New Fellows coming July 2021

The [National Clinician Scholars Program at UCLA](#) is committed to solving the most pressing societal challenges of our time—not least among them, addressing disparities and quality of care in an ever-changing healthcare landscape. Inspired by the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program (CSP), which for more than 40 years fostered the development of physician leaders able to transform health and healthcare, the university proudly launched the new UCLA NCSP in 2016. This post-doctoral education program builds upon the CSP legacy, with early career physicians and post-doctoral nurses participating in an intensive, highly-customized, two-year program that places them in community settings to conduct priority research directly benefiting the health of Southern California residents.



**National Clinician Scholars Program (NCSP) Fellow Jessica Faiz** has been a northeast lifer - until now! She was born in New York, completed her undergraduate education at Brown University and then worked as a New York public school teaching assistant in the South Bronx, where she developed a passion for promoting diversity and social justice. Jessica attended medical school at Albert Einstein in the Bronx, where she founded a pipeline program to recruit high school students to medicine and the sciences. She matched at Boston Medical Center Emergency Medicine where she advocated for increased diversity at the residency and national levels. Her research has involved social determinants of health and racial equity. Jessica is looking forward to trading brisk Boston mornings for warm LA beach days and exploring a new food scene in her first ever move to the west coast!

**National Clinician Scholars Program (NCSP) Fellow Mackenzie Yore** comes to UCLA from emergency medicine residency at UCSF Fresno, where she founded the Health Equity Action Lab and pursued research in narrative medicine, high-utilizers of ED care, and the impact of heterogeneities in air quality on ED demand. Mackenzie started her career in global health, first as an anthropological researcher, then coordinating a pregnancy registry for the WHO in East and West Africa, and subsequently developing an interest in social emergency medicine while at Stanford School of Medicine studying the impact of programs to connect ED patients with social supports. Mackenzie is very excited to collaborate with the incredible folks at UCLA and, being new to the area, would also love help finding hiking spots, maker spaces, and a preschool.



**Hospice and Palliative Care Fellow C. Danielle Antonuk (2021)** grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She migrated to California about 12 years ago after finishing undergrad at Kalamazoo College in Michigan. She completed a Master's of Science in Chemistry at UC Berkeley before moving south to work in biomolecular research at CalTech then Cedars Sinai Medical Center. Danielle completed medical school at USC before joining the UCLA-Olive View team for residency. Her interest in palliative care started during her ICU rotations as a resident and she is excited to spend the next year focusing on end of life care. Outside of medicine, Danielle loves spending time with her husband and daughter (Matilda, who is almost 4!) exploring the local parks, beaches and hiking trails.

**Medical Education Fellow Caroline Humphreys (2021)** is excited to continue in the UCLA family as the first fifth-year resident a Medical Education Fellow! Four years just wasn't enough, and she is thrilled to stay on and continue working with the residency...although she (and everyone else) is equally excited that she will no longer be making the schedule. She is from Northern California by way of prolonged stay in DC, and has come to appreciate exploring all that Los Angeles has to offer. In her free time she enjoys curating a collection of random useless knowledge and spending as much time as humanly possible hiking and wandering on the beach.

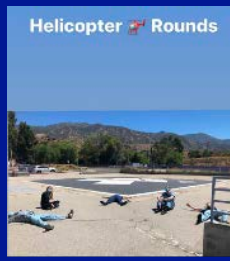


# We Need Something to Smile About:



National Teddy Bear Day was September 9th. Thanks to Carolyn Sachs (1994) for bringing some levity to work to liven the mood.

At Olive View-UCLA the tradition of helicopter rounds in the morning continues ... with social distancing and some calisthenics.



Theresa Cheng (2021) and her husband rescued 2 dogs and 8 puppies in Mexico and got them all adopted. Kevin Wroblewski (2021) got a new kitten (thanks to one of Theresa's prior rescues this year), and during quarantine he has been learning Portuguese. Anthony Fredericks (2023) adopted Mabel, and classmates Nate Coggins (2023) and John Mark Sawyer (2023) help babysit.



David Schriger hiking on the trails outside Santa Barbara with fellow Annals Deputy Editor Steve Green.



Welcome back Jake Lentz (2019) from his undisclosed government work. Thanks to Britt Guest (2019) and Alan Chiem for teaching US guided ganglion blocks, and all the other faculty teaching.



Holidays at UCLA and at Olive View-UCLA. A brief moment to toast and cheer with some apple cider. Cheers to a happy and healthy 2021!



Cat Weaver (2017) has taken up a new hobby - yarn and fiber crafts (knitting, embroidery and string art). Caitlin Oldenkamp (2023) has taken up archery as a hobby. Jimmy Murphy (2022) has also taken up cross-stitch, and put his talents into a thank you gift for our incredibly hard working residency coordinator Jen. Breena Taira is an accomplished musician, and along with her family has quite the orchestra at home - check out her posted performances on instagram.

# EMRAP COVID-19 Live Stream Shout Outs



Mel Herbert (1995) and the many amazing clinicians and staff at EMRAP continued to keep the knowledge updates, management and treatment for SARS-COV-2 coming with both the CorePendum chapter and the open access livestream events in August, October and December 2020. Britt Guest (2019), Sara Crager (2015) and our current research fellow Annette Dekker have all recently been featured on the live update events.



## Conference Highlights - Alumni Zooming into our Weekly Conference



We continue to adapt to training during the COVID-19 pandemic with zoom conference. It has allowed us to have many guest lecturers and alumni zoom into conference. I guess that is one benefit of our COVID-19 time. We would love to have more alumni come lecture. For those of you at academic centers, you might also recruit some of these alumni to give these great lectures at your institution.

- Joe Englanoff (1997) simplified the approach to the patient with “Diplopia.”
- Jeff Tabas (1998) provided one of his great cardiology lectures, “Avoiding Pitfalls in ED Management of Atrial Fibrillation.”
- Craig Goolsby (2008) spoke at our joint EM/dept of surgery conference which focused on trauma care, with his lecture “Military-Civilian Medical Knowledge Sharing: Learning Together to Save Lives,”
- Brandon Endo (2018) former Wilderness fellow discussed dive medicine and reported on his research during fellowship in Mexico examining PFOs among divers in an impoverished community whose livelihood depends on multiple dives per day.
- Atilla Uner (1997) coordinated our EMS conference focusing on dive medicine and drowning and demystified hyperbaric treatment - *think about a balloon being squeezed.*
- Ilene Claudius (2002) came virtually to speak about “Pediatric Abdominal Pain.”
- Shamsher Samra (2017), IDHEAL fellow Hannah Janeway and legal colleague Ji Soon Song spoke on “Law Enforcement in the ED,” continuing on some of our EDI committee discussions and efforts.
- Former research fellow Marc Probst, educated on one of his research areas, “Shared Decision-Making.”



**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 \(1998\)](#).



# Growing Families - Congratulations to Everyone!



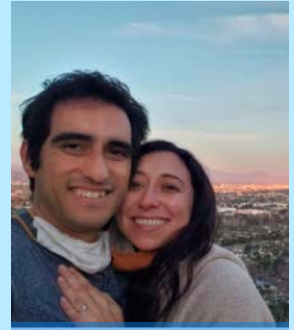
Jessa Baker (2021) and husband Paul welcomed their first child, daughter Mia.



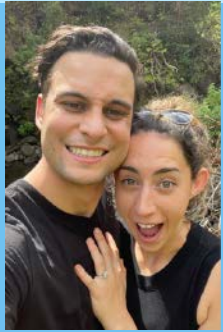
Ethan (2023) and Nicole Forsgren welcomed home Vera.



Noah Sugerman (2016), his wife Emma and son Levi welcomed home Sophie Rose.



Matt Levin (2021) and Amanda are engaged.



Hannah Spungen (2022) and Tim are engaged.



Santano Rosario (2023) and Alyssa are engaged. *Image courtesy of Mary Lewis Photography.*



Michelle Brennan (2022) and Trevor are engaged.



Cat Weaver (2017) and Brian are engaged. Their dog Casey is very excited too.

## Alumni Family Updates



Wendy Ciovacco Kaufman (2013), husband Jake, big sister Aliyah, and brother Judah welcomed Skye Dhara.



Steff Brenman (2017) and wife Liz are expecting their first child.



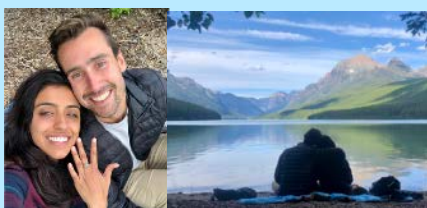
Hollie Sandlin (2004) has been managing working in the ED and keeping her 4 kids homeschooled.



Angela Brown (2016), husband Matt, and big sister Sophie added little sister Mackensie this summer.



Sanjay Arora (2005), Amanda and big sister Reya welcomed new edition Ravi (which means sun).



Annum Bhullar (2020) and Luiz Souza-Filho (2020) got engaged!



Mike Casner (2017) is engaged to Patrick Tobin. They are planning for a wedding in Palm Springs, CA for October 2021, COVID-19 pandemic permitting. And no, it's not going to be at the Saguaro.



Vanessa Kreger (2020) and Brett are engaged.



Jackie Kurth (2020) and Andrew are engaged.



Greg Tong (2020) and Seema Vohra got married.

# KUDOS to Our Amazing Faculty, Residents and Alumni

## Medell Briggs-Malonson, MD, MPH, MSHS

By unews • August 1, 2020

Medical Director of Clinical Effectiveness, UCLA Health  
 Director of Quality, UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine Assistant Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine,  
 David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

*"Emergency medicine provides a unique window into today's health care and social ills. We see people in their most vulnerable states, and we see firsthand how certain social determinants — such as access to care, housing and employment — affect people's overall health."*

What is your role as medical director of clinical effectiveness?

I took on this newly created position in November 2019. I focus on meeting UCLA Health's quadruple aim of improving population health, enhancing patient experience, reducing costs and increasing clinician and staff satisfaction. I also have a fifth, or quintuple, personal goal of achieving health equity among all patient populations. I chair the UCLA Health Grievance Committee, which develops programs and policies to address patient concerns and enhance the patient experience. I strive to create fiscally minded initiatives that add value to patient care without overburdening staff.



SPOTLIGHT on U

Medell Briggs-Malonson, MD, MPH, MSHS

What is your role as director of quality for UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine?

I am responsible for the quality, patient safety and patient experience of the UCLA Health emergency departments. It is my job to ensure that patients receive timely care in a safe environment and that staff feel confident providing that care. I identify clinical issues and address them by creating performance improvement initiatives that enhance emergency care.

Congratulations to **Medell Briggs-Malonson** who was spotlighted in the August 2020 UCLA Health Sciences News for her fantastic work in our Department and for the RRUCLA Medical Center. In addition to everything else she does she was appointed the acting Chief of Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for the UCLA Hospital & Clinic System while the health system launches and completes a national search process for the permanent position.



Olive View-UCLA Medical Center established in 1920 celebrates a century of excellence.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Luis Lovato (2001)** on being appointed as Chief Medical Informatics Officer (CMIO) for Olive View-UCLA Medical Center.



**SEIU (Service Employees International Union)** and **America** collaborated to create a video, "Racism is a Virus." Both **Anna Yap (2022)** and **Theresa Cheng (2021)** are featured on the video, among many other dedicated front line workers who are providing service during COVID-19.



Xenophobia and anti-Asian racism has grown and become more open and we all need to call this out when we hear it. Check out the [Video on YouTube](#) and continue to help us all spread the work of being antiracist.

**Sara Crager (2015)** was selected as a 2020 Exceptional Physician at UCLA. This comes as no big surprise, as she is a superb clinician and educator, but it is great that she will be recognized in this way.



**Michael Levine** has several active research projects, and two new grants. He has one NIH subcontract grant to work on a multi-center study of individuals with novel fentanyl analog overdoses. He has a second site grant from the FDA to be part of a multi-center study on adverse drug reactions to COVID-19 treatments.



## Op-Ed: On the COVID frontlines, we're tired of hearing lame excuses for risky behavior

OP-ED

### We need places to quarantine COVID patients

By Catherine Weaver and Judy Choe

WORKING in the emergency department of a big city hospital gives providers like us a unique, real-time view of the rapidly changing face of the COVID-19 pandemic. We see encouraging victories in patient care every day. But we also see missed opportunities to slow the current explosion of cases and deaths.

One kind of patient story doctors see every day in emergency rooms across Los Angeles agglutinates a huge gap in our current response and identifies a way we might reverse the rising tide of patients that risk drowning our hospitals.

The patients we're talking about come in with all the symptoms of COVID-19 — fever, cough, weakness, difficulty breathing. Some have even gotten positive test results before coming to the hospital. But they aren't sick enough to need to be admitted to the hospital, so we do what we can and send them home with instructions for how to take care of themselves.

The directions we give patients include the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, which recommend self-



department in Los Angeles every day. In the setting of this pandemic, failing to follow quarantine recommendations will inevitably have consequences, sometimes fatal ones. We need to provide patients with a better alternative than to carry the virus home to infect loved ones as they try vainly to follow doctor's orders.

So what do we do? At the peak of the pandemic, New York City's hotels opened their doors to house healthcare workers and COVID-positive patients so that they could safely quarantine or isolate away from neighbors and family members. Patients in isolation were provided with food and daily medical checks. New York City, which surpassed 10,000 COVID deaths, is now reporting only a fraction of L.A.'s total death toll.

In Los Angeles County, programs such as Project Roomkey currently support the vulnerable homeless population. Ideally, such efforts could be scaled to cover people suffering from COVID-19 who need temporary emergency shelter in order to isolate themselves. Hospitals could then offer lodging vouchers to COVID-19 patients with no other way to self-quarantine.

L.A. officials proposed expanding a medical sheltering program as early as March 30, and Dr. Brian

Flowers, chief of L.A. County's Department of Health Services told The Times last week that the county is trying to help people with quarantine plans. But she acknowledged we aren't there yet. She said she has heard from people isolating themselves in cars to keep their families safe in tight living quarters. Sleeping in a car is no way to recover from a deadly disease.

Philanthropists, local businesses and community leaders have an opportunity to save patient lives and support communities of color, which are disproportionately affected by the coronavirus. We need to coordinate efforts with local policymakers, front-line medical personnel, hospitals and testing centers to provide temporary emergency shelter options for COVID-19 patients and those suspected of being infected for the duration of time they can transmit the virus.

This proposed intervention, coupled with a concerted effort by the general public to wash hands and wear protective face coverings when around others, could help rapidly reverse the course of the pandemic in Los Angeles County.

CATHERINE WEAVER AND JUDY CHOE are emergency medicine physicians in Los Angeles. Emergency medicine physician Mark Morocco and Eric Savitsky contributed to this article.



Nurses in the Intensive Care Unit at Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital attend to a patient with COVID-19. (Los Angeles Times)

By MARK MOROCCO

NOV. 23, 2020 | 12:47 PM

SUBSCRIBERS ARE READING

CALIFORNIA  
L.A. County suspends outdoor dining at restaurants as coronavirus surges

CALIFORNIA  
California's new stay-at-home order now in effect: What you need to know

BUSINESS  
Rent is falling in Los Angeles. Head east, you'll find the opposite

OPINION  
Op-Ed: On the COVID frontlines, we're tired of hearing lame excuses for risky behavior

SCIENCE  
Column One: If you practice yoga, thank this man who came to the U.S. 100 years ago

And, as the epidemic wears on, another [Op-Ed in the Los Angeles Times on November 23, 2020](#), by Mark Morocco (2001).

Check out the [Op-Ed in the Los Angeles Times on July 23, 2020](#), written by administrative fellow Judy Choe and Cat Weaver (2017).

Surgeon General Vice Admiral Dr. Jerome Adams came to OVMC and made a specific stop at the ED. He spoke with residents, faculty and staff about the COVID-19 response and how there might be a chance to rethink healthcare delivery and addressing social determinants of health (something near and dear to the UCLA IDHEAL group's efforts and the work being done at Olive View-UCLA). LA County Supervisor later tweeted about the visit.



UCLA (RR/OV) EM Res Retweeted  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger @kathrynbarger · Sep 14  
I led @Surgeon\_General Adams on a tour of Olive View Medical Center, alongside @LACHealthSvcs Director Dr. Ghaly & @LACDMH Director Dr. Sherin, to show how L.A. County is combating COVID-19 in our hospitals & testing sites & leading the way in physical & mental health care.



Jaime Jordan has a number of new leadership positions (in addition to her role as APD, and work mentioned last newsletter as one of the Educators for Excellence for DGSOM). She is now the Director of Scholarship for Foundations of Emergency Medicine and the Co-Director of Faculty Engagement for SAEM's ARMED Med ED.

Carolyn Sachs (1994) was appointed as the UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine Wellness Officer. This new position includes participation in a new UCLA Health hospital committee charged with measuring wellbeing and planning strategic improvement processes for the entire medical center enterprise. We are GRATEFUL to have Carolyn lead this endeavor which has been a central component of her recent academic work and education.



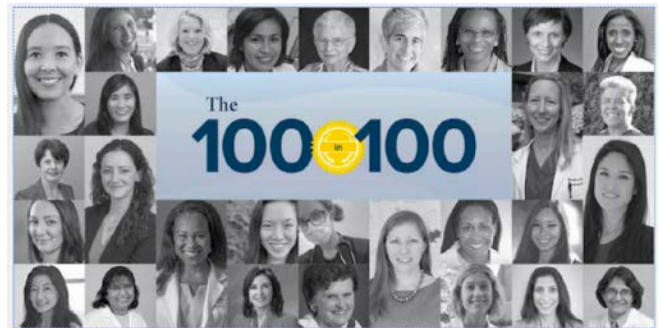
Olive View-UCLA Emergency Medicine Administrative Staff received the Hospital Wide Team Theme Award for Halloween.

# Kudos to our residents, fellows, faculty and alumni

**David Schrager** was part of the organizing committee for a workshop on Mathematical Models in Understanding COVID-19 in conjunction with IPAM (Institute for Pure & Applied Mathematics). The virtual three-day workshop in August 2020 covered the interactions between mathematical modeling, public policy, and science communication of the COVID-19 response. Each day started with an overview plenary lecture followed by a panel of experts in these areas. Included in the experts speaking was **Mel Herbert (1995)** and Roger Lewis with Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, former chair at Harbor-UCLA.



Congratulations to **Chase Richard (2023)** for being appointed to the search committee for the new Health, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Chief for UCLA Health. Chase is the only resident member of the search committee, which consists of more than one Vice Dean, Chief Strategy Officer, Chief Human Resources Officer, Chief Nursing officer, as well as Service and System Directors for UCLA Health.



## Women's Equality: When we knock down walls, we open doors

UCLA Health is excited to salute 100 female scientists, physicians and leaders to commemorate the centennial of the 19th amendment, which granted women the right to vote.



**Claudie Bolduc (2021)** participated in an Instagram broadcast with Dr Burchett (a news correspondent on Fox). The Instagram live event was a Q and A with an audience on what it's like on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Congratulations to **Medell Briggs-Malonson** who was selected in the salute to 100 Trailblazing Women of UCLA Health on Women's Equality Day celebrated August 26, 2020 to honor the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution establishing women's right to vote.



**UCLA (RR/OV) EM Res @UCLAEMRes - Jul 20**

On July 5, we gathered to mourn lives lost, to call out systemic racism in health care, and to declare racism as a public health crisis. On July 20, we gather again to declare that black lives matter. To fight, and to advocate. Please donate to [secure.actblue.com/donate/movemen...](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/movemen...)



IDHEAL UCLA Fellow **Jesus Torres** advocating for our community with Assembly member Luz Rivas. He was also featured in a

news story on Univision discussing the covid-19 surge in Los Angeles.



**Breana Taira** spoke at the UCLA U ACT panel "Advocacy Curricula in UCLA GME Programs," on September 30, 2020. U-ACT (UCLA Advocacy Collaborative Team), is a new GME wide collaboration to share advocacy efforts and calls to action across training programs.



Our residents and faculty joined together at all the UCLA affiliated sites on July 20, 2020 to again declare Black Lives Matter and keep the focus on the critical issues of racial injustice.

# Round of Applause!

Ultrasound Faculty Group Updates - The team (**Alan Chiem, Dan Weingrow, Jackie Shibata, George Lim, Amir Tabibnia**) has published an [online POCUS curriculum](#) that can be used in social distancing. They also developed a [3D printed hip arthrocentesis model to train](#) our residents and faculty to perform US-guided hip arthrocentesis.



The group is enrolling subjects in a POCUS-integrated observational study of COVID-19 patients (PIOS COVID), which is funded through an investigator-initiated grant from Butterfly Network, Inc. Their main hypothesis is that serial POCUS will improve prognostication of these patients, and help to identify early complications (such as myocarditis, ARDS, submassive PE, and pneumothorax) prior to frank clinical deterioration. They currently have four active sites (OV, RR, Temple, and SUNY Downstate), with Harbor-UCLA and LAC+USC pending IRB approval.



Several faculty lectured at the ACOEP Scientific Assembly October 2020 and the ACOEP OMED 2020 Emergency Medicine Track. **Britt Guest (2019)** - "Emergency Deliveries in the ED," **Mel Herbert (1995)** - "Kawasaki Disease," and **David Talan (1986)** - "Infectious Disease Case Scenarios that will Change your Practice."



**Cat Weaver (2017)** has received a California DHCS Behavioral Health Pilot Project \$200K grant for implementation of a Substance Use Navigator in both RRUCLA and SM EDs. With this grant and collaboration, Cat will be working on implementing a substance use referral program including Medication for Addiction Treatment.

**Matt Waxman (2007)** continues to work remotely supporting NYC Medics global disaster relief with their grant from the WHO to implement pre-hospital care in Aden, Yemen. There are 5 people on the ground and 30 Yemeni nationals who are being trained in prehospital care to staff a fledgling ambulance system supported by the WHO.

**Matt**, along with some of the other UCLA EM/IM faculty alumni **Scott Lundberg (2004)** and **Amir Rouhani (2011)** are pulling double duty to help during the COVID-19 surge. They are providing supervision helping fellows and attendings called up from the UCLA system to cover the ICU at Olive View at night so residents are not alone. They do a dedicated 12 hour overnight shift in the unit and running codes when the ICU faculty and fellows cannot be in house.

## EM:RAP 2020 December Upper Airway Nightmare

Kudos to **Nate Friedman (2021)** for his case presentation of an airway nightmare on the December 2020 EM:RAP.



**Daniel Ichwan (2021)** published a blog post, ["Virtual Interview Tips for Everyone" for the Vocal CORD](#). He also Published a chapter on EM:RAP's CorePendum, "Kawasaki Disease" with Ilene Claudius (2002).

Daniel was accepted, and is mid-way through, the UCLA DGSOM Medical Education Fellowship training program.

How...do we \*do\* this? Virtual Interview Tips for Everyone



**Carolyn Sachs (1994)** was interviewed by ACP Internist about IPV screening, ["Easing Screens for Intimate Partner Violence."](#)

**Jerry Hoffman (1979)** was interviewed for an article in Scientific American about the use of unnecessary tests and imaging for patients, ["Covid's Other Toll: Unnecessary Tests and Huge Hospital Bills."](#)

Jerry has also been teaching medical humanities, and medical ethics to undergraduate students at UCSB as part of a course with Dr. Prystowsky.

# More Plaudits



**Natasha Wheaton and Vanessa Franco (2017)** were featured in the UCLA News magazine June 2020, as heroes on the front line. Natasha Wheaton also had an opinion piece in U Magazine **"It's Surreal."**



The **NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE**

A Randomized Trial Comparing Antibiotics with Appendectomy for Appendicitis

The CODA Collaborative

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2014320 | October 5, 2020

Congratulations to **David Talan (1986), Greg Moran (1992)** and the CODA collaborators on their NEJM publication!

**Jerry Hoffman (1979)** and Ken Milne were featured in an **ACEP podcast** for ACEP|Frontline with Ken Stanton discussing the analysis of tPA in stroke.

**It's Getting HOT in Here!!! A TPA Response with Drs. Ken Milne & Jerome Hoffman**

ACEP Frontline - Emergency Medicine

Science

medicina.uc.cl

INSCRÍBETE AHORA

6 y 7 de noviembre 2020

LIVE

**CONCEPTOS GLOBAL**

MEDICINA DE URGENCIA DESDE CHILE PARA EL MUNDO

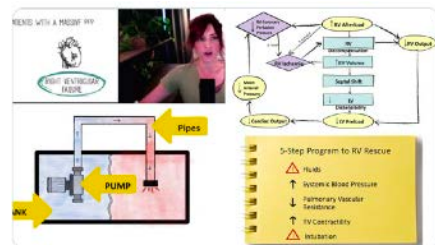


medicina al servicio del país

ResusX is a conference designed by Resuscitacionists to provide clinicians with the most up to date skills and knowledge to help you save your patients' lives. The conference is designed for clinicians of all levels within Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Anesthesia, and any specialty that manages sick and crashing patients. The conference featured many of the leaders in critical care education including our very own **Sara Crager (2015)** who taught about management of unstable atrial fibrillation, fluid management physiology, and RV failure.



There were lots of tweets and retweets from those in FOAM education (both EM and critical care), about her great lectures. Check out some of the



talks at **ResusX** available for free.

She also participated in a panel discussion hosted by EMRA's critical care section.



The Conceptos en Medicina de Urgencia conference is one of the biggest EM conferences in Central and South America put on by the EM group in Santiago, Chile. Unfortunately in 2020, like everything this year due to COVID-19, nobody could actually travel to Chile, so it was held virtually instead. **Mel Herbert (1995)** participated in a couple panels, **Britt Guest (2019)** lectured on Perimortem C-sections, **Greg Moran (1992)** delivered two ID lectures (Infections-Rapid Killers and Meningitis) and **Ilene Claudius (2002)** gave two lectures on pediatric updates (Dehydration and COVID-19).

# Give Some Applause to the Class of 2021 Fellowship Matches

Congratulations to **Theresa Cheng (2021)**, an MD, JD, who will be a 2021 Skadden Fellow. For those of you unfamiliar with the [Skadden Fellowship](#), it is described as “a legal Peace Corps. The two-year fellowships support graduating law students committed to public interest work as they embark upon specific projects at sponsoring organizations. The fellowships are viewed as the public-interest world’s version of Supreme Court clerkships or Rhodes Scholarships. So they are both public-spirited and prestigious.” Over the last 30 years, there have been about 900 fellows, with 90% continuing to work in the nonprofit sector. As a Skadden Fellow, Theresa will be working with [Bay Area Legal Aid](#) and [Alameda County Healthcare for the Homeless](#) to develop a novel street-based Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) for survivors of intimate partner violence. A MLP based in the Project Roomkey hotels and homeless encampments has never been trialed in the past, and she is excited to work with the medical and legal experts to launch the first. Theresa is excited to return to the legal world, and will continue to work clinically as an ED provider part time in the Bay Area.



Congratulations to **Nate Friedman (2021)** who will be a Toxicology Fellow at UCSD next year.



Congratulations to **Cameron Harrison (2021)** who will be a Critical Care Fellow at Stanford next year - joining the ranks of many of our alumni who are part of the growing EM/crit care dual trained work force.



Congratulations to **Daniel Ichwan (2021)** who will be a Pediatric EM Fellow at Rady Children’s Hospital at UCSD this July.



Congratulations to **Jessa Baker (2021)** who will be an Ultrasound Fellow next year at UCI.



Congratulations to **Ryan Dollbaum (2021)** who will be a Wilderness and Environmental Fellow in Denver at the University of Colorado next year.



Congratulations to **Danielle Antonuk (2021)**, who will be doing a Palliative Care Fellowship in the UCLA Division of Palliative Care.



Congratulations to **Caroline Humphreys (2021)** who was selected to be our next Medical Education Fellow at UCLA.



# More Kudos for Residents, Fellows, and Faculty



**Haig Aintablian (2022)** travelled to Armenia in November 2020 amidst the continued conflict with Azerbaijan. He provided volunteer emergency and critical care services to trauma patients (soldiers) in the crisis zone in Nagorno-Karabakh. Haig spent two weeks working at four main hospitals, as well as teaching ultrasound and procedures to residents at a total of eight hospitals. His efforts were featured in

a [Fox News piece](#) and a [NBC News Feature](#).

## UCLA doctor travels to Armenia with \$100K in medical supplies, ultrasound machines

By Anahay Karapetyan | Published November 25 | Armenia Azerbaijan | FOX 11



UCLA doctor travels to Armenia with medical supplies, ultrasound machines  
A UCLA doctor who was born and raised in Glendale recently returned from Armenia. FOX 11's Anahay Karapetyan shares his story.



"It felt almost like the initial call to medicine that I had," Dr. Haig Aintablian, 28, said of traveling from California to Armenia during the Nagorno-Karabakh war. "This was another call to action in my life."

Courtesy Haig Aintablian

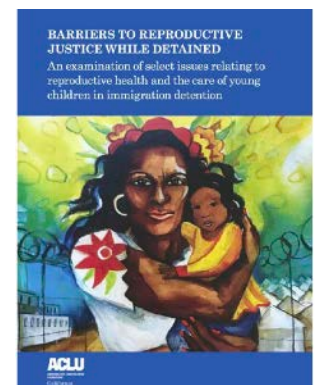
**David Haase (2022)**, (who many may know was in the US Air Force for 6 years prior to medical school) continues his service working in the Air National Guard as a Pararescueman. He trains monthly with the rescue squadron at Moffett Field. He recently flew 1000 miles off the coast, parachuted out of a C-130 airplane into the open ocean, then used an inflatable boat to get to a ship, and treated on board (for a couple days) a sailor who suffered multiple traumatic injuries after a 30 foot fall before having him hoisted on a helicopter to fly him to definitive medical care at a hospital in the Bay Area.



**Greg Moran (1992)** was featured in a [television advertisement](#) for the No on Proposition 23 campaign in California.

The work that **Theresa Cheng (2021)** started while on elective last year with the ACLU in Northern California, and partnered with the non-profit Border Kindness, has been synthesized in a report. Theresa did much of the work interviewing individuals in Mexico to develop the content. The work [Barriers to Reproductive Justice While Detained](#), is an intersectional toolkit created by Theresa Cheng, MD, JD, in collaboration with the Gender, Sexuality & Reproductive Justice team and Immigrants' Rights team of the ACLU Foundations of California.

*"The detention of immigrants is inherently a violation of reproductive justice, as it denies people their bodily autonomy and human rights. Within the system, practices of and conditions in detention facilities compound the problem, as horrifically exemplified by the coerced sterilization of detained people in a Georgia center. [Barriers to Reproductive Justice While Detained](#) seeks to promote awareness of these problems among the legal and medical providers working with detained people, and to provide ready access to some of the relevant legal standards in five areas of focus most frequently cited in interviews with recently detained individuals—menstruation-related hygiene, lactation accommodations, access to diapers and formula, and pregnancy-related medical care."*





# Laudations UCLA Alumni



Congratulations to **Libby Char (1997)** who was awarded the 2020 Michael Keys Copass Award from the Eagles. The “Eagles,” a de-facto coalition derived from the Metropolitan Municipalities EMS Medical Directors Alliance, is comprised of most of the jurisdictional EMS Medical Directors for the 60 to 70 largest cities’ 911 systems in the United States, and the chief medical officers for several pivotal federal agencies such as the FBI, U.S. Secret Service, White House Medical Unit, as well as numerous global counterparts – from Paris to Auckland and from Berlin to Manila. The Michael Keys Copass Award is presented to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Director who has demonstrated longstanding

service, contributions and leadership in the unique realm of out-of-hospital emergency care and who, in addition, has served as a role model, not only for emergency medical services personnel, but also for fellow 911 system medical directors across the nation.

Libby was also appointed by Gov. David Ige to serve as interim director of the Hawai’i Department of Health (DOH), effective September 16, 2020 leading the COVID-19 response.

## 2020 Michael Keys Copass Award

Winner: **Dr. Libby Char**



Dr. Libby Char

Congratulations to **Rob Rodriguez (1994)** who was announced as one of Joe Biden’s Coronavirus Task Force members this November 2020 during one of the President Elect’s first press briefings on COVID-19.



Congratulations to **Kelly Painter (2004)**, Curriculum Director for the EM residency at INTEGRIS Southwest Medical Center in Oklahoma for her [Annals of EM publication](#) showing tetracaine use at home for corneal abrasions in the first 24 hours reduces pain and does not increase complications.



DR. PAINTER  
CURRICULUM DIRECTOR



Short-Term Topical Tetracaine Is Highly Efficacious for the Treatment of Pain Caused by Corneal Abrasions: A Double-Blind, Randomized Clinical Trial

Stacia Shipman, Kelly Painter, Mark Keuchel, Charles Bogie

Published online: October 27, 2020

Open Access

Full-Text HTML | PDF



**Sarge Takhar (2006)** took a break from working in the ED at Peninsula Mills Hospital in Northern California to work the NBA bubble during the shortened season/playoffs. He also helped develop and manage Peninsula Mills hospital’s COVID-19 plan, and has started to perform ID consults on the wards at the hospital there. (Sarge completed an ID fellowship after his IM, and EM training at UCLA).



Join us for a webinar:

**Pragmatism and innovation: collecting data in fragile situations during COVID-19**

Tuesday 27th October, 3-4pm

To register for the webinar, follow the link in the description.

Congratulations to **Kelli O’Laughlin (formerly McCartan) (2007)** and **Parveen Parmar (2008)** who both participated in a webinar hosted by the National Institute for Health Research Unit on Health in Situations of Fragility ([RUHF](#)) and Enhancing Learning & Research for Humanitarian Assistance ([EHLRA](#)) to discuss practical and adaptable lessons learned through humanitarian research in fragile settings.

# Check out Faculty, Residents and Alumni Podcasts, YouTube Channels and Radio



**Claudie Bolduc (2021)** and **Mark Morocco (2001)** have been doing a monthly satellite radio session [SiriusXM Doctor's Radio](#) with Dr. Marc K. Siegel of NYU to discuss Covid.

**Claudie Bolduc MD, MPH**  
@ClaudieBolduc

MD/MPH | Emergency Medicine | Health Advocate



Check out **Sarah Medeiros (2014)** and her [EM Pulse Podcast](#). Sarah was also part of a [panel discussion June 2020, for the Sacramento Press Club](#). The Press Club hosted a *live event with Dr. Fauci followed by the panel discussion which included Sen. Richard Pan, who has been at the forefront of state health care legislation; Dr. Sara H. Cody, Santa Clara County's public health director, who was one of the first officials in the country to take action to contain the spread of the virus; Dr. Sarah Medeiros, an emergency medicine physician at UC Davis Health and co-host of the podcast EM Pulse; and Assemblyman Jim Wood, a Democrat who is chairman of the Assembly Health Committee.*



Podcast Producer, Host



**William "Billy" Goldberg (1996)** hosts a regular session called "The ER Show" on Doctor Radio, Thursdays from 8p-10pm ET on SiriusXM Channel 110.



Doctor Radio @NYUDocs - Jun 18  
It's the dynamic duo—the masked medical crusaders of the #ER, @askdrbilly & @freshiegree LIVE 8-10amET Thurs. They're both in studio, faces covered and physically distanced. Are you wearing your #facemask around your #DropletGang (people you spend time w/ but don't live with)?



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

**Robin Sax**  
@dearcoparent

**Tuesday 12/22 on Instagram Live! 4pm PST**

**CHAT WITH US about EVERYTHING COVID: tests, vaccines and more!**

**Dr. Angelique Campen**  
@glamerdoc

**Angelique Campen (2000)** answered all sorts of questions about COVID-19 on an Instagram live event.



**Edidiong "Didi" Ikpe-Ekpo (2010)** is the founder and CEO of "When Docs Talk." Check out her [Facebook](#) page, or listen in and follow on the [YouTube channel](#).



• WHEN DOCS TALK •

presented by

**Are We Okay?**  
Challenges to Mental Health in 2020

# More Kudos for Alumni in the Media

**Mark Morocco (2001)** was a featured expert providing guidance and commentary in numerous media outlets. [MSNBC](#) interviewed Mark at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, on the California stay-at-home order and ways to decrease COVID-19 transmission. [Yahoo! News](#) and [MSN](#) syndicated the story. He was also featured in [NBC TODAY](#) and in a [CNN](#) story on the surge of COVID-19 patients in hospitals and potential shortage of staff and equipment across Los Angeles County. [CNN International](#) syndicated the story, and his comments are also featured in [FOX 11](#) and [KTVU-SF \(FOX\)](#) articles on frontline workers' experience with COVID-19.



**Matt Waxman (2007)** has been featured regularly on the local Fox 11 News (about twice weekly) with Hal Eisner as well as on MSNBC.

Hospitals fear of another holiday COVID-19 surge



**Clayton Kazan (2005)** was featured on the BBC talking about the directives for EMS providers in Los Angeles.



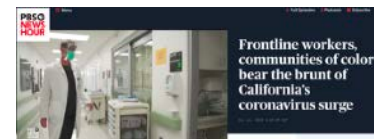
**Rob Rodriguez (1994)** took a leave from UCSF to go to his home state of Brownsville Texas to help work in the ICU during the overwhelming surge the area experienced in July 2020. He was featured on ABC World News, and a [NBC online news feature](#) as part of a panel discussion at the League of United Latin American Citizens.



**Angelique Campen (2000)** has been featured in several news features on CBS news, NBC news in print such as the LA Daily News and on [radio.com](#) providing commentary on COVID-19 vaccination, the stay at home order, and Los Angeles EMS covid related policies.



**Greg Moran (1992)** and Olive View Medical Center were featured in a [PBS News Hour](#) during the December 2020 Los Angeles COVID-19 surge (0% ICU capacity), discussing the disproportionate impact of the disease on communities of color.



**Anthony Cardillo (2006)**, CEO of Mend Urgent Care, continues to provide public service and education about COVID-19 daily on KABC7 in Los Angeles, answering viewer questions.

**Michael Katz (2005)** one of our EM and critical care specialist alumni working at St Jude's in Fullerton reported on Los Angeles KABC7 news about COVID-19 treatment July 2020, and again about the surge around the holidays in November.



**Rais Vohra**, former Olive View-UCLA faculty, toxicologist, UCSF Fresno faculty is working as Interim Health Officer for Fresno County Department of Public Health, has given many news briefings in this role. His briefings and reports sometimes hit the news outside the local area, including July 31st when his briefing reached many other California news media outlets as he discussed a tragic death of a teenager due to COVID-19.



Vanderbilt medical director talks COVID-19 precautions as Nashville begins to re-open

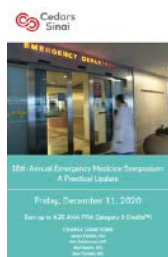
**Tyler Barrett (2005)**, medical director at Vanderbilt and Annals Editor, was featured in a local [Tennessee newscast](#) and [quoted in local media](#) discussing the increase in domestic violence during quarantine.

**Armand Dorian (2003)** CMO at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital is another regular KABC7 news contributor in the Los Angeles area educating the public about COVID-19.



# Applause for Alumni

Congratulations to **Steph Machi (2014)** who was co-director for the Cedars Sinai ED Symposium this year, now in its 18th year. Also notable, **Carl Berdahl**, former UCLA NCSP gave the opening talk, "Artificial Intelligence in the Emergency Department: How can we use it to improve clinical decisions, image interpretation, and data analysis?"



Congratulations to **Andrew Seefeld (2009)** who was named Medical Director for the Emergency Department at Speare Memorial Hospital in Plymouth, New Hampshire. Taking over as COVID-19 continues to create new demands and require innovation from everyone. Best of luck in your new role!

**Sanjay Arora (2005)** was promoted to Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine. He serves as the Vice Chair of Research and Scholarship, Chief of the Research Division in Emergency Medicine and director of the research fellowship. He is also a clinical fellow at the Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics.



**Wendy Ciovacco (2013)** is Assistant Medical Director at Marian Regional ED in San Luis Obispo. She is vaccinated and ready to return after maternity leave.



**Reb Close (2003)** continues to work to educate providers about MAT and substance abuse treatment during a webinar hosted by the [California Bridge](#) program.



Congratulations to **Rachel Shing (2016)** who left her academic position in Lawton, Oklahoma to be an ultrasound fellow at Boston Medical Center this coming July. She and her family went to Cape Town, South Africa to see her in-laws and get a break (at a much warmer winter spot) before starting in Boston.



Boston University Medical Center  
**Emergency Medicine**



**Todd Schneberk**, former research fellow, has left behind his role as APD to focus his work with the USC EM Global Health Division. He heads the USC Social Medicine efforts, and continues to collaborate with the UCLA IDHEAL group members on research, advocacy and implementation of initiatives

across LA County DHS. He continues to work with displaced persons in Tijuana, Mexico and perform forensic evaluations for asylum cases with Physicians for Human Rights.



Congratulations to **Mike Casner (2017)** who recently accepted a full-time faculty position with the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. There he is joining fellow UCLA-OU residency alumnus, Steven Go (1994). He has also taken the time provided by



COVID-19 stay at home restrictions to foster his hobby and become a master baker.



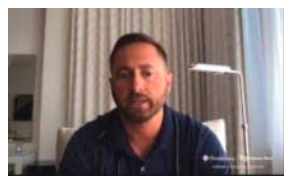
Congratulations to **Steven Bolger (2020)** who after finishing his Education and Simulation fellowship at Mt Sinai St Luke's in NY will be returning to California to an academic position at Loma Linda July 2021.



Congratulations to former UCLA critical care and research fellow **Dan Rolston** who along with a colleague won the AHA and Resus Science Symposium's Young Investigator Award.



Kudos to **Eric Snyder (2008)** for being named the Director of Stroke Services at Providence Cedars Sinai Tarzana Medical Center.



**EMERGENT**  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

# Impressive Academic Work UCLA Alumni

Check out their (and other alumni) recent publications in the next pages



Congratulations to **Tyler Barrett (2005)** for being elected to the Vanderbilt Chapter of AOA by the VU School of Medicine students. Tyler also recently completed the Certification in Healthcare Change Management Program

through the Tennessee Medical Association John Ingram Institute for Physician Leadership Lab. He continues his cardiology research as well as research and publications informed by his leadership as Medical Director at Vanderbilt and COVID-19 hospital response.

**Kelli O'Laughlin (2007)** is the GEMA (Global Emergency Medicine Academy - an Academy of the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine) President this year, and thriving since moving to the University of Washington. She is PI on an [ELRHA grant funded project](#) "Dial-COVID: Remote mitigation through telephone symptom surveillance in refugee settlements in Uganda." She is also site PI for a large CDC grant [INNOVATIVE SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS WITH SARS-COV-2 INFECTIONS \(INSPIRE\) REGISTRY](#). This is a longitudinal cohort study to prospectively monitor and evaluate the physical and mental impact of COVID-19.



**Craig Goolsby (2008)** was promoted to Vice Chair, Department of Military & Emergency Medicine and appointed to the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) First Aid Task Force. He has a

couple new grants, as PI for the Development of a Tourniquet Testing Fixture (Grant from Department of Defense), and as Lead Mentor for the [First Aid for Severe Trauma Training](#) (Grant from the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society).



**Jess Oswald (2018)** has received grant funding to be an investigator on a phase II clinical trial evaluating a new drug to treat diabetic neuropathy. She has started an ED pain management pilot at UCSD, teaching target-based pain therapy

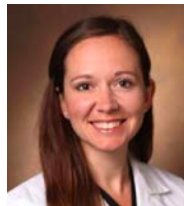
procedures.

She recently completed a two year project to develop a series of physical therapy videos for commonly encountered painful complaints. Jess is planning an evaluation of the videos, and to incorporate them with the EMR at UCSD (EPIC).

PAIN MANAGEMENT HOME EXERCISE PHYSICAL THERAPY VIDEO COLLECTION



**Carmen Wolfe (2015)** co-authored two chapters in the "What Do I Do Now?: Emergency Medicine" series, Legal and Ethical Issues in Emergency Medicine. The book uses a



case-based approach drawing upon the four well-established principles of bioethics: beneficence, non-maleficence, respect for autonomy, and justice. Other ethical principles, such as honesty and personal integrity, are also addressed. Carmen's

chapters include "Managing Bias and Belligerence: The Racist or Belligerent Patient (Cultural Conflict," and "Very Important Patients: Interpersonal and Institutional Conflict."



**Parveen Parmar (2008)** has continued to lead for [SCOPHE \(Southern California Providers for Health Equity\)](#) in Los Angeles, and run the Global Health Division at Keck USC Department of Emergency Medicine. She has been working with a fantastic team on reviewing deaths in ICE detention that will be submitted

for publication soon. She has been working with [IRC \(International Rescue Committee\)](#) supporting Syrian refugees in Jordan through managing DM and HTN while on lockdown (Access to Care and Prevalence of Hypertension and Diabetes

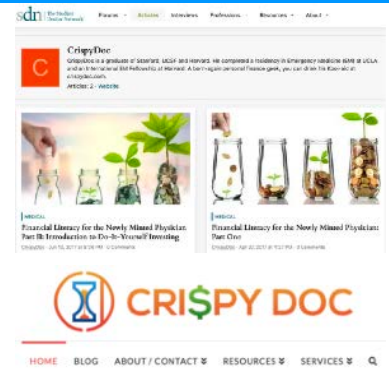
Among Syrian Refugees in Northern Jordan.

JAMA Netw Open. 2020 Oct 1;3(10):e2021678. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.21678.) During the COVID-19 surge in Los Angeles this November/December 2020 she was featured in an interview by the news media Al Jazeera.



# Applause for UCLA Alumni

Shout out to one of our **alumni** (who is remaining anonymous) for their website **Cri\$py Doc**. This is a blog, but that term does not do the site justice. All of us should be money wise and for those of you who “nerd out” on talking about some of these intricacies and for residents who are just getting started and are not sure who to ask this is one of the great places to start and get some additional resources. The site/blog provides advice related to managing your finances as a physician and creating the career that makes you happy. Again that also does not do it justice, and I highly recommend you go to the website and read. This alumni’s **posts for the newly minted physician** and investment 101 were highlighted on Student Doctor Network.



**Carlo Reyes MD JD**

**Carlo Reyes (2003)** has many great new updates and potential for alumni, faculty and residents to get involved. His company HealthMedRecord (HEMR), has created **Medcordance**, an ePOLST Registry and Advance care planning platform. This is one of four recognized POLST registries in the state of California, and the company is working with the California Coalition for Compassionate Care to link the four registries to be a statewide registry. **For more information about the registry**, reach him at [carlo@health-e-medrecord.com](mailto:carlo@health-e-medrecord.com)



From prior newsletters you know about his 501c3, HealthCharity that has been conducting medical missions for 4 years now. They have gone to Iraq, India, Haiti, and Honduras. Like all of us they are planning for travel following the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccination distribution, and they are about to launch a 2021 calendar of upcoming missions. **If you are**

**interested in this work please email at [carlo@health-e-charity.org](mailto:carlo@health-e-charity.org)**

HEMR and HealthCharity are partnering on a nonprofit endeavor to launch their next platform called Bodhi, a global telehealth speciality consult platform for medical missions and health ministries. This exciting new application will link US medical specialists with remote physicians all over the world to donate professional services in the form of quick mobile consults. The first of its kind, Bodhi will allow physicians unable to serve in medical missions due to time/schedule constraints to be able to meaningfully help our peers in other countries deliver needed care in poor access regions all over the world. **If any of residents/attendings or alumni are interested in international medicine and would like to engage/research through the use of this application, please reach out at [carlo@health-e-charity.org](mailto:carlo@health-e-charity.org)**



At Los Robles hospital, where Carlo is assistant medical director, they are planning to launch a 3-year EM residency in 2021. **If anyone is interested in knowing more about potential community ER teaching or opportunities, also please reach out to Carlo to check on positions.**

And, if you thought Carlo was not keeping busy enough, he is also on the board of another nonprofit called Avastha. This nonprofit's charitable purpose is to raise consciousness through meditation, yoga practice, healthy eating/lifestyle and lifestyle medicine treatment principles. Avastha is non-denominational, and in fact encourages the acceptance of all the world religions as modalities of spirituality. They are going to launch a wellness meditation through zoom, projected date to be January 3. This will be 20-30 minutes long focusing on meditation and breath work. Avastha wants to offer avenues of self-care for the front line providers, nurses, respiratory therapists, and other medical workers.



CODA Collaborative, ..., **Moran GJ**, .... **Krishnadasan A**, ... **Talan DA**. A Randomized Trial Comparing Antibiotics with Appendectomy for Appendicitis. *N Engl J Med*. 2020 Nov 12;383(20):1907-1919.

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**Schriger DL**. Learning From the Decrease in US Emergency Department Visits in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic. *JAMA Intern Med* 2020. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.3265

Friedman J, ... **Schriger DL**, Hirashima ET. Excess Out-Of-Hospital Mortality and Declining Oxygen Saturation: The Sentinel Role of EMS Data in the COVID-19 Crisis in Tijuana, Mexico. *Ann Emerg Med*. 2020 Jul 23 doi: 10.1016/j.annemergmed.2020.07.035

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