



July 2021 - December 2021 Residency & Alumni Newsletter



Upcoming Events:

Spring Retreat (*fingers crossed for a return to Palm Springs*) March 22-24, 2022

CORD Academic Assembly - San Diego March 27-30, 2022 (*Rebecca Bavolek is conference co-chair*)

EM:RAP One - At Luskin Center (UCLA) April 18-21, 2022 (*Mel Herbert, Britt Guest and all your favorites*)

AAEM Scientific Assembly - Baltimore Maryland April 23-27, 2022

SAEM Annual Meeting - New Orleans May 10-13, 2022

**Graduation Class of 2022 - June 18
(Location TBA)**



Luskin Conference Center
Los Angeles, California

SAVE THE DATE
April 18-21, 2022



Message from the Chair



Another year, and another COVID surge—enough already! We've all been working hard through the ups and downs of COVID, and I can't thank you enough for your dedication and perseverance during this ever-changing pandemic. Our challenges also include staffing problems and record-breaking boarding at both Reagan and Santa Monica. But our faculty and residents continue to care for our patients, even under extreme conditions. People are making so many worthy contributions and doing such great work, it's hard to list them all, but here are a few noteworthy news items:

Mel Herbert (1995) and **Britt Guest** (2018) are planning a big EM:RAP event at Luskin this spring which will include many of our UCLA faculty.

Matt Levin (2021) has joined the part time faculty at Olive View, along with **Liz Samuels**, who is also working with us at Santa Monica.

Cat Weaver (2017) has been serving as the interim Medical Director for the UCLA Homeless Health Initiative with **Medell Briggs-Malonson** (Chief Health Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Officer for UCLA). Please see the detailed description later in this issue.

Jamie Bell has taken on the role of Director of EDI for our department. In that role, he joins the Executive Committee of the DEM, as well as the search committee. He will represent us within the medical school and will continue his efforts with our entire EDI committee on issues such as recruitment and retention of residents, faculty, and fellows. He will also continue his informatics work, a few shifts, and his most important job as a new Dad!

Stephen Villa and the entire curriculum team across our affiliated sites have been working on our new core medical student rotation which will officially launch at Reagan, Olive View, VA, and Santa Monica in March 2022. Let's help them make it a huge success.

Oscar De La Rosa and **Luis Cortes** are recent additions to our research team as coordinators, so let's welcome them. In more good news, our **EMRA** students should be back in the hospital soon, so it will be great to have them back after a long absence.

And as always, let's thank **Richelle Cooper** (1998) for putting together yet another terrific newsletter to let you all know what has been happening around our department and residency program.

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



Medell Briggs-Malonson, MD,
MPH, MSHS

Chief, Health Equity, Diversity
and Inclusion for the UCLA
Hospital & Clinic System



Catherine Weaver, MD
Administrative Medical
Director, UCLA Homeless
Healthcare Collaborative



Career Day for the Class of 2022



Career Day for the class of 2022 was great. We were thankfully back to meeting in person. Lisa Waltz and Mark Morocco generously opened their home to host and it felt like old times for all of those residents who were recruited to our program in Mark's backyard or met alumni there on career day in the past. Lisa served up a homemade breakfast feast. We had several faculty and alumni giving pearls on the job search, finances, types of jobs, locums, contracts, negotiations and fellowships. Thank you to **Seth Sushinsky (2012), Carmen Partida, Lisa Zhao (2011), Armando Rodriguez (2016), David Morales (2018) Sabrina Tom (2015), Robert Rosenbloom (2002), Amir Tabibnia, Malkeet Gupta (2006), Jay Lee (2005), Elisa Anhalt (1999), Stephanie Tang (2011), Mark Morocco (2001), Richelle Cooper (1998), and our program director leadership Natasha Wheaton, Rebecca Bavolek, and Jaime Jordan**. It was again a wealth of information for the seniors. Special thanks to Jennifer Cassidy and Matt Hill for their assistance coordinating the event including catering lunch.



IDHEAL and Social EM Updates

The first Social Emergency Medicine textbook was published and several IDHEAL members, and former UCLA research and NCSP fellows have authored numerous chapters:

Chapter 3 Immigration as a Social and Structural Determinant of Health - Todd Schneberk and Shamsher Samra (2017)

Chapter 4 Language and Literacy - Kian Preston-Suni and Breena R. Taira

Chapter 9 Frequent Emergency Department Use: A Social Emergency Medicine Perspective - Maria C Raven and Hemal K. Kanzaria

Chapter 10 Substance Use: A Social Emergency Medicine Perspective - Elizabeth Samuels et al.

Chapter 17 Legal Needs and Medical Legal Partnerships - Dennis Hsieh



The Olive View Trauma Recovery Center opened its doors in October 2021. The TRC serves victims of crime and their families in the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys by providing mental health and wrap around case management services. It is a collaboration between Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Antelope Valley Hospital and the High Desert Regional Health Center. Drs. Breena Taira and Hyung (Henry) Kim lead the effort at Olive View and Dr. Eileen Shu leads the effort at Antelope Valley Hospital. The TRC is funded by the California Victims Compensation Board and applies the UCSF TRC model to engage and assist victims using a multidisciplinary approach including evidence-based therapy, social work, case management, psychiatry and non-profit legal services through a collaboration with Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County. To date we have received fifty referrals from a wide variety of sources. If you have a patient who is a victim of crime and might benefit from these services, please use the referral tab on our website (<https://oliveviewtrc.org/>). Dr. Annette Dekker is leading a multidisciplinary research team to propose a formal evaluation of TRC services across Los Angeles County.



We previously reported Cat Weaver (2017) received a grant from California Department of Health Care Services Behavioral Health to support Substance Use Navigators (SUNs) in both the RR and SM UCLA ED. These efforts mirror some of the programs that Maureen McCollough has implemented at Olive View-UCLA. The SUNs conduct initial brief assessments, introduce patients to treatment programs, including programs that provide medications for addiction treatment (MAT), expedite appointments at MAT-capable clinics, serve as the primary coach for their clients, and maintain ongoing contact with their panel. They also assist with access to other services such as financial counseling, primary care, mental health services, social services, and residential treatment

facilities. They outreach to treatment partners and facilitate transitions from the hospital to outpatient treatment. Our two SUNs are Hanita Dhillon, and Alejandra Estrada. In addition to Cat's leadership, she is working to help us obtain free naloxone for distribution in both the UCLA EDs to provide to individuals at high risk of overdose.

The UCLA Health system has received a generous grant to improve access and care for the unhoused and has established the [UCLA Health Homeless Collaborative](#). The development of the program is under the authority of the UCLA Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion office with Medell Briggs-Malonson. Cat Weaver is the Interim Administrative Medical Director. The Healthcare Collaborative (HHC) is *a new community care program dedicated to providing high-quality, equitable healthcare to people experiencing homelessness (PEH) in the greater Los Angeles area. Through this collaborative, UCLA Health seeks to meet patients where they are through mobile health outreach and harness its partnerships with academic, community health, and social service organizations. The mission of the HHC is to improve the health outcomes of patients experiencing homelessness and connect them to critical social services, including housing and employment opportunities.*

Beginning in January 2022, the new UCLA Health Homeless Healthcare Collaborative (HHC) is deploying fully equipped mobile healthcare units to provide urgent care and transitional primary care services to people experiencing homelessness throughout the greater Los Angeles region. The HHC mobile healthcare units will initially serve the areas of West Los Angeles, Downtown Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, and North Hollywood.



The HHC is **recruiting mission-driven physicians** to join the community care team. HHC physicians will be responsible for delivering high-quality, clinical care to individuals and providing **educational oversight of residents and medical students**. This is a paid, part-time opportunity that allows great scheduling flexibility. Physician shifts will be available seven days a week with an average shift length of 8 hours. Interested physicians can [contact us directly](#) for more information.

Refugee Health Alliance at the Border

We have previously featured the nonprofit Refugee Health Alliance in the newsletter. The group formed in 2018 by Hannah Janeway and several other dedicated individuals established with the vision “to provide ethical, holistic, and culturally-inclusive care and advocate for all displaced and vulnerable populations in collaboration with activists and existing healthcare organizations along the US-Mexico border.” The organization is a collaboration of Mexican Nationals and US volunteers.



Neither Safety nor Health: How Title 42 Expulsions Harm Health and Violate Rights

July 28, 2021 | Asylum, United States

By PHR staff members Kathryn Hampton, MD, MA, senior officer, Asylum Programs; Michelle Hinton, MD, MPH, medical director; and Cynthia Pompa, Asylum Programs officer; and Alana Davis, medical student at the University of Michigan Medical School.

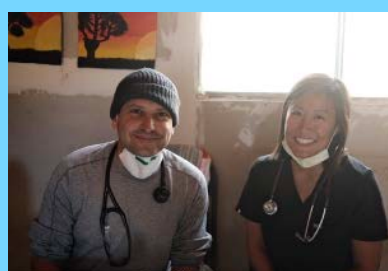
Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) completed a study examining the impact of Title 42, the Trump administration order to close the border to migrants and asylum seekers, which remains in place under the Biden administration. PHR conducted interviews in Mexico with 28 asylum seekers and 6 health care workers; families are continuing to be separated and traumatized. Hannah Janeway helped provide logistics and support for the [research study](#).

As part of the new residency social EM rotation, residents have the opportunity to go to Tijuana to work alongside the providers of Refugee Health Alliance. Residents AJ (2024), Agatha Brzezinski (2023), and Taylor James (2024) have traveled to learn about the organization and assist the clients served there. Matt Waxman (2007) has joined the board of the organization and travels once or twice a month doing clinical work at the shelter/encampment outreach. He is working with RHA on a grant with International Medical Corps to provide refugee assistance. Judy Choe has also volunteered her time to provide clinical care. Jackie Shibata, Matt Waxman, Kareem Agunbiade and Teresa Liu (Harbor UCLA) also came to Tijuana to teach local providers point of care ultrasound and plan on expanding their educational collaboration.

Hannah Janeway is the faculty sponsor for an undergraduate group started this year called [RHA at UCLA](#). Hemang Acharya has also been a key mentor to the group. Refugee Health Alliance

also has a medical school connection as the clinic is becoming a global health site for the DGSOM. Dean Miller and the UCLA Global Health Department recently traveled to Tijuana for a site visit. In addition to UCLA medical students rotating at the clinic, Hannah is working with the medical school to explore a large border health component in the curriculum. In Hannah's words, *"It is good exposure, about how an organization can be working as both a bandaid and a change agent - structurally and locally, about how non-hierarchy can be successful and I would argue superior to how medicine is usually practiced, about how creativity and non-conformity are acts of resistance to the system and where change is happening on a practical level (and is, in fact, probably the most fundamental location where the first steps of the scientific process occur), and to the complexities and contradictions inherent in border work (including its ability to really evaluate your own privilege and your own commitment to ending inequities)."*

For those looking to be involved there are a number of ways you can help from donating your time, becoming a regular provider or part of their Saturday outreach, helping provide administrative support, or donations - [see the Refugee Health Alliance website](#). You can also simply provide assistance via amazon smile, selecting the organization as your charitable donation.



WoopWoop Cardiology Fundamentals

This September EM:RAP and WoopWoop produced their third virtual conference, “Key Topics in Cardiology.” Of course we expect excellence and experience from Mel Herbert (1995) with his 20 years of EM:RAP and even more years as an EM educator, but a big shout out to Britt Guest (2019) CMO of WoopWoop Media Production for her leadership and excellence. Ok, so those that were watching day 1, there was a little glitch at the start. No change to a new streaming platform goes without any glitch, and the team got things up and running quickly and without any visible panic (well done!). The virtual conference included favorite EKG guru Amal Mattu among others, and featured many alumni and UCLA and OV faculty including lecturers:

Sara Crager (2015) - “The EM Path to LVAD Zen,” “Consult Corner: Electrophysiologist,” “Rescuing the Right Ventricle,”

Mel Herbert (1995) - “aVR the Forgotten Lead,”

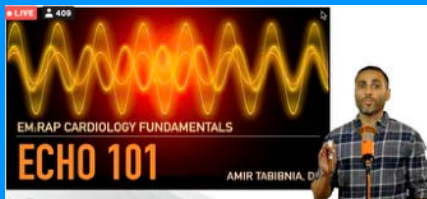
Britt Guest (2019) - “Chest Pain in Pregnancy,”

Amir Tabibnia - “Echo 101,”

Scott Lundberg (2004) - “Rapid Diagnostic Protocols in Acute Coronary Syndrome.”

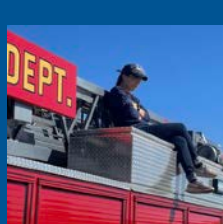
The conference was not all lectures, there were interesting case discussions in between the lectures, and additional content to engage the crowd watching with use of the app and chat function. Mystery Case with Amir Rouhani (2011) and Britt Guest on day 1, a Critical Care Corner panel including Sara Crager, a Mystery Case on Day 2 with Sara Crager and Jacob Lentz (2019).

Residents Dong Yao (2023) and Kelsey Kneisly (2024) helped out in the studio. A big congratulations to the entire team for another great conference.



Extrication and Rescue EMS Day

Thanks to Atilla for organizing and the Los Angeles County Fire Department for hosting our program at the Del Valle training center in Val Verde for an extrication and rescue demo and hands on class for our fall EMS day.



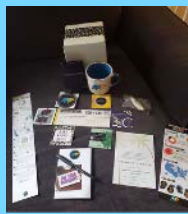
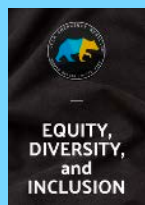
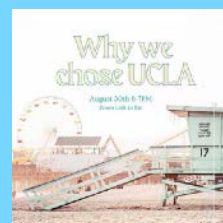
Recruiting the Class of 2026

Recruitment for the class of 2026 is still in full swing with a couple more interview days and several events in January 2022. This year again was an all virtual recruitment, although we did have some in person sub rotations. Our residents and faculty, and our coordinators Jen Cassidy and Matt Hill have been really helpful in welcoming the future EM work force. A little swag package that goes out to all the applicants who only meet us virtually. The residents ran several sessions over the summer via zoom Open zoom resident led sessions in the summer before the application cycle - "Ask UCLA Anything," "The Application Process," "Get to Know Us," "Why we Chose UCLA EM." There were multiple people involved in outreach via SNMA, the SAEM residency/fellowship fair, and Rebecca Bavolek at the CalEMRA/AAEM Medical Student Symposium.

We again had a game night/trivia night that Alex Daguanno (2022) created and hosted, with more than 60 applicants who joined us and were on teams with several residents and faculty.

Coming later in January we have our EDI day and EDI social, we have a zoom session for applicants to meet faculty and our specialty interest groups (critical care, ultrasound, education, IDHEAL and social EM, research and more), and we are working on an alumni night where candidates can meet some alumni.

The leadership team created a welcome for all of the applicants with swag, and infographics. We previously had an FAQ for the program in general. Several resident members of the UCLA EDI committee helped create a 15 item FAQ to address EDI queries in our outreach - thanks to Ashley Vuong (2022) Chase Richard (2023), Reza Hessabi (2024), Ignacio Calles (2022), Ethan Forsgren (2023), James Murphy (2022), Christina Villalpando (2025), and Anna Yap (2022) who all helped with the questions!



Resident Medical Education Committee

The resident Medical Education committee has been doing a lot with outreach and mentorship. Co-chairs John Mark Sawyer (2023), Reza Hessabi (2024), and Taylor James (2024) have been doing a great job. Lots of residents have helped out with sub I orientation sim/skills lab this fall. Taylor James has been working closely with EMIG and set up a suture workshop with them. We are starting to have return of shadowing opportunities in the ED. Michelle Brennan (2022) has continued to work with our undergrad research volunteers (the Emergency Medicine Research Associates (EMRA) to implement their mentorship program. Agatha Brzezinski (2023), Taylor James (2024), and Caitlin Oldenkamp (2023) have jointly been running the Big Sibs for Sub-Is program this year.

Resident Community Outreach Committee

Resident co-chairs David Haase (2022) and Daniela Alarcon (2024) are working on several new projects - being involved in our mobile clinic for the underserved, OV waiting room education, high school outreach, and street medicine. In addition, Michelle Brennan (2022) has started a opioid harm reduction project with UCLA undergrads (see the kudos page 31), that our Outreach Committee is looking to help bolster her efforts.

The New Curriculum in the Medical School

The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA has been undergoing a comprehensive curricular overhaul for that past several years which launched in August of 2021. This redesign included restructuring the curriculum to condense the pre-clinical teaching to one year to allow for the addition of a third year "Discovery Year". The Discovery Year will provide students the opportunity to explore additional training and opportunities to complement their clinical medicine. Additional focuses of the new curriculum include increased teaching on structural racism and bias in medicine as well as ethics, humanities and critical thinking skills. Many of our EM faculty have been instrumental in the curricular redesign project including Dr. Jaime Jordan, the Course Director for the Discovery Year, Dr. Alan Chiem, the Director of POCUS, Dr. Natasha Wheaton, the Director of Basecamp (a month long orientation course) as well as Drs Rouhani (2011), Chiem, Wheaton, Jordan, Grock, Zhou, Basrai and Celedon who were selected to be "Educators for Excellence", the core faculty teaching group of the new curriculum. Additionally, Dr. Pam Dyne (1995) along with Dr. Natasha Wheaton and Dr. Rachel Brook (Internal Medicine) have worked in collaboration with the Dean's office to build a new integrated coaching program providing 1:1 support for all first year medical students. The curriculum has been a huge success so and our department can take great pride in its significant contributions to this project!

The MS1 students were introduced to Harm Reduction and the first Narcan training ever this early in training.



Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

We are very fortunate to have the leadership of Jamie Bell who has taken on the role of Director of EDI for our department and has been supporting our inclusive committee and subcommittees to further our departmental efforts. The EDI Committee is very excited to announce three new co-chairs to the leadership team: new faculty member Stephen Villa and residents Chase Richard (2023) and Daniela Alarcon (2025). For the AY201-2022, the EDI Committee is focusing on four SMART goals:

- 1) Residency Recruitment
- 2) Faculty (and Fellow) Recruitment & Retention
- 3) Community Engagement
- 4) Wellness

We continue to promote and sustain an inclusive environment within the Department of Emergency Medicine in line with the values of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. More to come!

Our residents are leading many of our initiatives including:

- Outreach and mentorship to the UCLA Undergraduate group - Melanin in Medicine.
- Ongoing weekly Zoom mentorship sessions with URM applicants in EM
- EDI Committee inviting Chase Richard and Daniela Alarcon on their board
- Helping with Minority Health Organization events including the Holiday Gala and the recurring Resident Roundtable outreach for UCLA medical students

In addition as part of our recruitment efforts we again awarded a couple scholarships for URiM applicants to come for a SubI rotation with us this past season.

Ignacio Calles (2022) has been doing a lot of work identifying and reaching out to programs at UCLA, and in the community for high schools, charter schools, and programs that create experiences and mentorship for under-represented premed/pre public health individuals. The goal is to have our group help with mentorship and outreach to develop and support these pipeline mentorship programs, and outreach to local schools. Daniela Alarcon (2025) and Reza Hessabi (2024) as well as NCSP/IDHEAL fellow Jesus Torres, and Stephen Villa have been doing a lot of work to help with these efforts.

In related news, IDHEAL fellow Rose Diaz started a group for Latinas in EM among residents and attendings across the country that meets once every few months via zoom. They had their first meeting in October 2021. Their twitter handle is @LatinasInEM.



ACEP Scientific Assembly 2021 in Boston!



Did you check out the ACEP 2021 Scientific Assembly brochure? Featured on the back, UCLA Alumni Russ Kino (1991) and Reza Danesh (2008).



Well, we thought we would have a more normal ACEP experience until the Delta surge. While many have been able to get their boosters and ACEP was in person, a lot of it was virtual and many faculty and alumni participated from home. Thus we postponed having an alumni event for a time when we know you will be there. It was great to see in person those of you that were in Boston. We still had a special dinner to honor to the graduating class, a special thanks to Jennifer Cassidy our residency coordinator for organizing the event. Rebecca Bavolek was busy as part of the ACEP Scientific Assembly Planning committee, and Jen Cassidy participated in several meetings in her role on the CORD board.

Congratulations to the faculty, alumni and residents who gave presentations.

Thanks to Valerie Norton (1995) and Larry Stock for representing California at ACEP Council.

Lecturers:

Abdulkareem Agunbiade -

- How to Succeed in Your First Five Years of Practice
- Tapping a Joint

Ilene Claudius (2002)

- Sugar & Spice & Everything is NOT Nice: Pediatric Endocrine Emergencies
- Metabolic Disasters in Kids- Lethal Disorders You Have Never Heard of & How to Treat Them

Craig Goolsby (2008)

- Simple & Revolutionary Technologies for Hemorrhage Control
- Teaching Everyone to Save Lives Until Help Arrives

Luis Lovato (2001)

- Maintaining Your ABEM Certification: Review of 2020 Lifelong Learning & Self-Assessment
- Maintaining Your ABEM Certification: Review of 2021 Lifelong Learning & Self-Assessment

Gil Shlamovitz (2007)

- Wound Care: What's New and What's best?
- Abscess Management: Incise Smarter

Jeff Tabas (1998)

- Bundle Branch Block Unblinded - Identifying Acute MI
- Rapid Rule Out of Acute MI: Understanding the Troponin

David Talan (1986) and Nick Mohr

- Late Breaker - Will I Get COVID-19? Results of a Multicenter Study of Risk in Emergency Department Personnel

Gil Shlamovitz (2007)

- Wound Care: What's New and What's best?
- Abscess Management: Incise Smarter

Tyler Barrett (2005) and Richelle Cooper (1998), along with JACEP open Editors Chadd Kraus and Marna Greenberg

- ACEP editor's workshop - "Tips to Get Your Paper through Peer Review"



More ACEP Boston 2021

Several faculty, fellows and alumni (residency and research and NCSP fellowship alumni) presented abstracts:

- Nicole Rodriguez, Juan Carlos Montoy, **William Mower**, Ali Raja, **Malkeet Gupta**, Virginia Chan, Angela Wong, James Wilcox, **Robert Rodriguez**. Gestalt in Acute Trauma: Evaluating clinician accuracy in predicting abdominal injuries among trauma patients.
- ToxIC Fentanyl Study Group **Michael Levine**, et al. Adulteration of Illicit Drugs in ED Patients with Acute Opioid Overdose: A Multicenter Cohort.
- **Thomas Akie**, **Malkeet Gupta**, **Robert Rodriguez**, **Gregory Hendey**, **William Mower**. Characteristics of Intracranial Injury in Pediatric Patients in the National Emergency X-Radiography Utilization Study.
- Gail D'Onofrio, ..., **Elizabeth Samuels**, et al. Extended-Release Injectable Buprenorphine for Emergency Department Patients with Opioid Use Disorder in Minimal Withdrawal.
- **Bianca Judy Choe**, Melissa Connor, Tina Riley-Gonzales, **Medell Briggs-Malonson**, et al. A Code Staff Assist for Acutely Agitated Patients Reduces the Incidence of Patient and Staff Safety Events.
- **Tony Loffredo**, Sam Torbati, Rachel Pearl, Anand Gopalsami, Michelle Ischayek, Bradley Rosen, Edward Seferian, Teryl Nuckols, **Carl Berdahl**, Joel Geiderman. Promoting Goal-Concordant Care in the Emergency Department: A Quality Improvement Initiative that Promotes Adherence with prior Do Not Attempt Resuscitation Orders.
- **Carl Berdahl**, Andrew Henreid, Kian Samadian, Vivek Shah, Sam Torbati. The Universe of Existing Measures of Emergency Physician and Emergency Department Performance: Results from a Scoping Review
- Tausif Billah, Lauren Gordon, Elizabeth Schoenfeld, **Marc Probst**. PIECES: Performing Interviews with Clinicians Regarding Emergency Shared Decision-making A qualitative analysis of clinicians' use of shared decision-making aids in the ED
- Elizabeth Burner, Alex Chang, Danielle Hazime, Jennifer Gonzalez, Vanessa Garcia, Janisse Mercado, Adriana Berumen, **Michael Menchine**, **Sanjay Arora**. Long Term Effects of Mobile Health and Augmented Social Support on Emergency Department Patients With Diabetes
- Angelica Loza-Gomez, Chun NokLam, Eric Arnold, **Michael Menchine**. Barriers in Telephone CPR Instruction by 911 Dispatchers for Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Flashback Photo



In 1983, Chief of UCLA Emergency Medicine Marshall Morgan started the MedStar Emergency Air Transport Service. MedStar operated for eight years before closing due to budget crunch issues for which the Medical Center did not continue subsidizing ([see LA Times posting](#)). At the time, MedStar was a unique program that combined helicopter, fixed-wing and ground ambulance transportation of critically ill patients with a team of doctors and nurses providing treatment as part of the transport team. While more common place now, it was not when it started and it was a distinctive feature of our residency.

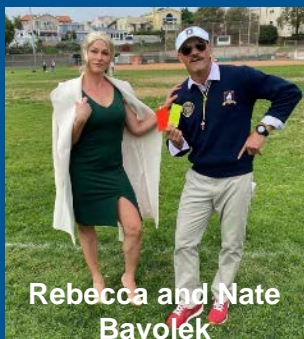
In this photo you can see from left to right Larry Baraff, Marshall Morgan (love that he is gaining height by standing on the wheel), Paula Pearlman (1984), Mark Solem (1984), James Leo (1984), Jerry Hoffman (1979) (note if you zoom you can see he is wearing Baxter Larmon's jacket), and Stephen Thom (1984).

Some residency trivia - Mark Solem's brother Kurt Solem (1989) was the first legacy resident in our program. The other legacy residents were sisters Kathleen Myers (1994) and sister Kelli (McCartan) O'Laughlin (2007), and sisters Nara Shin (2006) and Mary Sun (2013).

Happy Halloween UCLA Family !



Alan Chiem and family



Rebecca and Nate Bavolek



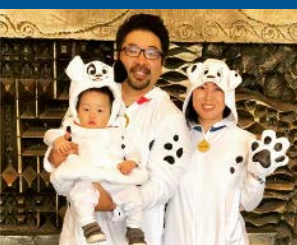
Sam (2013) and Brian Kadera



Angelique Campen (2000)



Eric Snyder (2008)



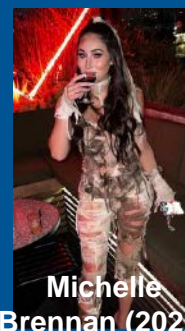
WonKi Chae and family



Max Berger



Erica Kiemele-Giss, Charlie and Charlotte



Michelle Brennan (2022)



AJ (2024)



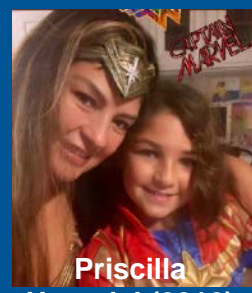
Vera Forsgren as Carolyn Sachs



Tola Johnson-Miniel (2012) & Nick Miniel (2011), Quinn and Remy



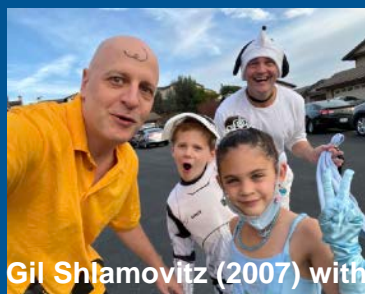
Kevin Wroblewski (2021)



Priscilla Hanudel (2012) and family



Wendy Lin (2002) and husband Bergt



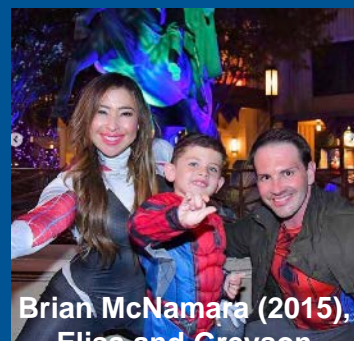
Gil Shlamovitz (2007) with husband Tomer and kids Maya and Ben



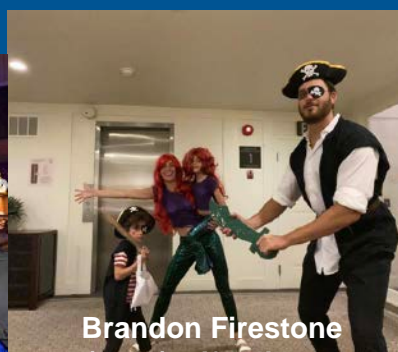
Angela Brown (2016), Matt Sophie & Mackensie



Hollie Sandlin (2014) and family



Brian McNamara (2015), Elisa and Greyson



Brandon Firestone (2017) wife Hillary, Lennon and Dax



Hans House (2002) and pups



Steff Brenman (2017) and Holden



Thank You Wellness Committee

Thanks to the Wellness Committee for organizing beach day after conference.



October 1 National Cookie Day - Thank you to Carolyn Sachs the UCLA Department Wellness Officer for bringing treats for the ED.

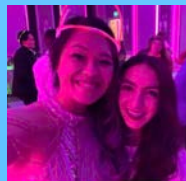
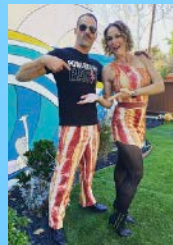
Thanks to everyone who worked in the ED over Thanksgiving! And for the Residents who got to together for a Thanksgiving meal.



Thanks to Rebecca and Nate Bavolek for the Annual post-Thanksgiving Bacon Bash.

Grateful for the ability to gather and celebrate Christmas before the Omicron surge took over at the Olive View EM holiday party accompanied by the smooth sounds of Gravelly Disabled. Special Guest singer, chief resident Ignacio "Nacho" Calles (2022).

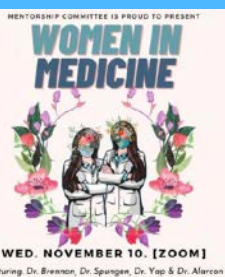
Thanks to everyone who worked in the ED on Christmas and New Years.



Women and Gender Minority in Medicine

Our Women and Gender Minority Group had our first meeting of the year (thanks for hosting Hannah Spungen) and is already planning the second get together.

Thanks also to residents Michelle Brennan (2022), Hannah Spungen (2022) and Daniela Alarcon (2025) for hosting a mentorship session about women in medicine with or undergraduate research volunteers.



Welcome Informatics Fellow - Jennifer Fang

The newsletter editor missed including her previously, and she started July 2021 on maternity leave, and thus we wanted to be sure everyone could welcome her to our EM Family. **Jennifer Fang** is excited to return to UCLA. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from UCSD and MD from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, she recently completed Emergency Medicine residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, where she served as Chief Resident, and a Medical Education Fellowship at UCLA. During residency, her work focused on using technology to improve residency administrative tasks, intradepartmental communication and collaboration, and quality of and access to care for vulnerable populations. Jenn used to enjoy baking, crochet, origami, and trying new restaurants, but now spends her free time taking long walks to the beach (not on the beach) with her husband Dan and new baby Ben from their home in Redondo Beach.



Meet our New Fellows coming in July 2022

Ultrasound Fellow Jeremy Shin



I was born and raised in Mililani on O'ahu, Hawaii and wanted to go as far away as possible for undergraduate, so I ended up in Baltimore, MD at Johns Hopkins University. I then missed home a little too much so I came back for medical school. It was during this time I really became interested in ultrasound and ultimately helped start an ultrasound elective for the first and second year medical students with Dr. Lizzie Ferreira and Dr. Ricky Amii. I am now finishing my last year in residency at the University of Washington. I enjoy hiking, going to the beach, cooking, baking, and spending time with my dog Sora! Excited to be a part of the UCLA family!

National Clinician Scholars Program Fellow Joshua Tiao

Hello, my name is Josh Tiao, and I'm currently finishing up my 4th year of residency at LSU New Orleans. I'm originally from Cincinnati, OH and am a diehard Bengals fan (tragically). I went to undergrad at Vanderbilt, then medical school with boy wonder Santano Rosario at USC before coming to the bayou for residency in New Orleans. I will be a fellow in the National Clinician Scholars Program next year, where I intend to work with local communities to research and develop sustainable solutions for firearm injuries. I am extremely excited to return to my favorite city in the world, and to share once more in its vibrant culture and community. In my free time, I enjoy basketball, boxing, skiing, and know way too much about Star Wars.



I can't wait to meet everybody!

UCLA Administration Fellow Anna Yap



I am thrilled to stay with the UCLA EM family as I meld my passion for health policy with health systems science in the Administration Fellowship next year! I grew up in Loma Linda, completed my dual degrees in music and integrative biology at UC Berkeley, and went back home to study medicine at Loma Linda University School of Medicine. I became involved in health policy because I went into medicine wanting to fix our healthcare system, understanding that health as a whole is so deeply affected by infrastructure created by policies. I hope to meld my experiences with administration, as our policies and structures are only as good as our ability to implement in our health system. I am so lucky to work with and learn from our stellar administrative physicians at UCLA, and I hope I can continue to make the lives of our residents and faculty better!

Meet More Incoming July 2022 Fellows

Education and Simulation Fellow Ashley Vuong (2022)



One more year! Ashley Vuong is grateful and excited to be a PGY-5 and stay with the UCLA EM family next year! Ashley is originally from the always sunny city of Philadelphia but is very happy to now live in the even sunnier city of Los Angeles. She completed her undergraduate degree at Penn State and then followed that by attending medical school at Temple University where she also obtained a Masters in Urban Bioethics. Ashley wants to continue to work in Medical Education in the future and focus on education surrounding social determinants of health in emergency medicine. As a Med Ed fellow at UCLA there's a lot to live up to, but she thinks she'll be okay if she does her best Kellie Kitamura impression and calls everyone "babe."

Space Medicine Fellow Haig Aintablian (2022)

We are excited to announce UCLA's newest fellowship program in Space Medicine coming this July 2022. The UCLA space fellowship involves working with SpaceX as well as collaboration with NASA and Caltech/JPL. It is designed to create the next generation of flight surgeons who will advance the understanding of human physiology in space and directly support human space flight and planetary expeditions. This 2-year-long training program will include engineering training and certifications, austere medical training in locations like the Arctic, Mars analog missions, and multiple other opportunities with partnering agencies in the aerospace industry. Haig Aintablian (2022) will be the first fellow. His story in his own words:



"When I was 7 years old, my dad got me a telescope for my birthday. It took weeks and much frustration (for both of us) until finally, we learned how to track and focus this complicated array of glass onto little dots of light flittering through the cosmos. I can vividly remember the first time, after weeks of effort, that I looked through the lenses of this navy telescope and saw Saturn's blurry rings rapidly trying to escape the telescope's visual field. In those few short seconds, I felt a magnitude of amazement akin to what Galileo must have felt when he had done the same. Over the years, my love for the sciences grew

exponentially, especially when it came to the great vastness in the skies that were above us. I continued to look for distant celestial bodies through my telescope, watched documentaries on countless space expeditions, volunteered at the Griffith Observatory. When I was 15, I even waited 8 hours to see Stephen Hawking talk about black holes at Caltech!



I completed my Bachelors in Biology and did research on the evolution of biological molecules in the early primordial soup, and then finished a Masters in Molecular Genetics and Biochemistry with my thesis on ancient DNA structural molecules, like pterin, that may have originated from meteoroids prior to life's existence on earth. As I completed my pre-medical education, I was just as deeply in love for the human body and it's complex functions, especially in the molecular sense, as I was for the sciences relating to the stars. In medical school, I founded an astronomy group and began to venture into another difficult hobby - astrophotography. During my weekend nights, I'd travel out to the dark Arizona desert and lose myself in the sea of stars that surrounded me.



In medical school, I tried to find ways to merge my two passions, so during my fourth year I pursued research at NASA's Johnson Space Center, learning about the changes in human physiology in microgravity while being immersed in the historic campus that took us to the moon. I knew that UCLA would be my home, not only because of the unmatched education it offered, but because I knew it would foster my passion. As an intern, I teased about pursuing a future in the space industry, so much so that I included it as one of my future goals in my residency biography.

The last 4 years have solidified this desire, not only to merge my two deepest dedications of space and medicine, but to do my part in advancing our quest to become a multi-planetary species. Today, I'm so excited to be starting this fellowship in Space Medicine and am incredibly grateful to the people that helped make this possible. Drs Feldman, Hendey, Menon, and Bavolek, thank you! I've always dreamt of this opportunity, a future that speaks to all the parts of my being. To launch this fellowship, the first of its kind in the nation, here, is not just a small step for UCLA, it's a giant leap for medicine."

Follow our new fellowship on instagram @spacemedicine.ucla

Alumni and Guest Lecturing

Community Corner with Alumni

July 2021 - A panel of alumni in community practice answered resident questions - how to keep up, when do you get ophthalmology, orthopedics, plastic surgery, pediatrics, and psychiatry to come in, handling a disaster airway and traumas at a non level I trauma center - with **Maya Kido (2013)**, **Brian Truong (2018)**, and **Ashley Sanello (2016)**

A Most Interesting Case - Alumni discussing a challenging case they have encountered and delivering some pearls for community practice:

Jackie Kurth (2020)...a teenager with a TCA and initially unappreciated concomitant beta blocker overdose that she expertly managed resuscitation, consulted the UCLA ECMO mobile team and the patient walked out of the PICU neurologically intact.

Rachel Shing (2016)... a >50yo with throat swelling, who reportedly stabbed a pustule in the back of his throat with a pen knife. A very scary airway, cricothyrotomy pearls, and a great save.

Armando Rodriguez (2016) a case of meningococcemia, that seemed to be a subtly sick child triaged to the low acuity area that progressed in the department.

Tyler Haertlein (2020).. A code blue on the L and D floor - a young woman induced for pregnancy induced hypertension, who had a cardiac arrest after her epidural was "topped off", was resuscitated, received intralipid and resuscitative c-section by ob/gyn, and both mother and baby doing well.

Annum Bhullar (2020)....preterm, precipitous breech double footling delivery rolls in on one of her first shifts as a community doctor, single coverage... oh and it was Annum's birthday. And, she zoomed into conference to present this teaching case from a Starbucks, I wonder what the other customers were thinking as she had her earphones in and taught the proper techniques for breech deliveries, management of prolapsed cord, postpartum hemorrhage and more standing at a table in the store.

Alumni Guest Lecturing

Jerry Hoffman (1979) - *"Diagnostic decision-making: How clinicians think"*

Pediatric Themed conference day featuring - Alumni **Nate Friedman (2021)** *"Pediatric Tox - A Case of Xeloda Self-Poisoning,"* **Ilene Claudius (2002)** *"Peds Endocrine,"* **Jess Wall (2015)** *"Pediatric Shock,"* **Daniel Ichwan (2021)** *"Newborn Normals."*

Daniella Antonuk (2021) *"Intro to Palliative Care"* In October and part II of palliative care *"Where we are, and where we are going... (Advanced Care Planning and Goals of Care)"* In November.

Monica Wattana (2012) *"Approach to Immunotherapeutics and Adverse Events in the ED."*

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 \(1998\)](#), and I will connect you with the APD team.

Before Omicron Life Around and Out of Town

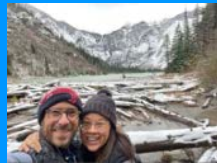
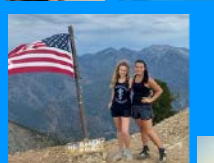
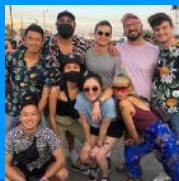
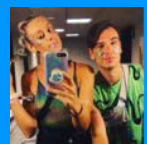
Getting back to some normalcy, it has been great to see people outside our bubble, try some new experiences and to see alumni get together:

There was travel around the US and abroad:

- UCLA EM residency representing at the Grand Canyon.
- Jo Feldman and Jess Wall (2015) scuba diving (they are part of a group that has a yearly dive experience somewhere each summer).
 - Nico Pascua (2023) celebrated his 30th birthday in Palm Springs, at the Saugaro... (hoping that is a sign we make it back for retreat this year).
 - Matt Waxman (2007) traveled to visit family in Oregon and caught up with Carter Wystrach (2017).
- Rebecca Bavolek traveled to Mexico...and closer to home took her family to the happiest place on earth. Then a road trip with the family (dogs Finn and Obi in tow) to Arkansas.
- Pam Dyne (1995) travelled to Kauai.
- Kevin Mauerman (2025) went to Hilo, Hawaii.
- Christy Villalpando (2025) vacationed in Hawaii.
- Kelsey Kniesley (2024) explored Peru.
- Anna Yap (2022) travelled to Austin, Texas.
- Education fellow Max Berger traveled to Glacier National Park.
 - Carolyn Sachs (1994) took a trip up the California coast and visited with Wendy Ciovacco (2007).
 - Eric Wieshofer travelled to Europe this winter, including a visit to Matterhorn Glacier Paradise.
 - Sam Kadera enjoyed some snowboarding in Whistler, Canada.
 - Angelique vacationed in Arizona.

Several people starting going back to sporting events and shows:

- At the Dodgers game Matt Waxman (2007) caught up with recent graduate Matt Levin (2021).
- Rebecca Bavolek, Sam Kadera (2013) and our amazing charge nurse Kristi Kuilken enjoyed a UCLA Bruin football game and tailgating at the Rose Bowl. Several other residents have also been to UCLA football games as well.
- Several residents have been getting out and experiencing Los Angeles - Tig at Griffith Park Observatory, Christian Hernandez (2025) at the Beach, Missy Brown (2025) and Daniela Alarcon (2025) hiking.
- Niko Pascua (2023) checked out the Van Gogh Immersive Exhibit.
- Micaela Finnegan (2023) has had some amazing adventures in Yosemite and elsewhere.
- A class of 2019 dinner reunion - Kellie Kitamura, Jake Lentz, Matt Rosen (and wife Sarah) and Mike Merjanian.
- November and the first ski of the year with Nate Coggins (2023), Anthony Fredericks (2023) and a Micaela Finnegan (2023) sighting.
- Stephen Villa and his wife went to see Hamilton.
- Alex Daguanno (2022), Anna Nguyen (2022), Ashley Vuong (2022), checked out Milky Chance at the Wiltern with Annum Bhullar (2020) and Luiz Souza-Filho (2020).



Alumni Getting Out and Getting Together

Lots of people went to Europe this summer:

- Stuart Goldfarb started the summer in Europe and cheered on the Tour de France (mountain stage).
- Aws Al-Abdullah (2020) and Sophia vacationed in Barcelona.
 - Claudie Bolduc and James (2021) vacationed across France.
 - Carter Wystrach (2017) and wife Lia vacationed in Italy this summer.
 - Emily Huang (2013) honeymooned in Italy and Greece.

Others went to Asia, South America, and across the US:

- Brian McNamara (2015) and wife Elisa vacationed in the Maldives, and then in El Salvador.
- Hollie Sandlin's (2014) kids enjoyed a little ice cream party after the first week of school and a family vacation in Costa Rica.
- Tiffany (Hackett) Ferreira (2004) and Pablo took trips to Palm Springs, Chicago and more.
- Erik Schraga (2006) and family vacationed in Cabo.
- Chris Belfour (2015) and husband took a trip to New Orleans.
- Mike Casner (2017) traveled to Chile.
- Theresa Cheng (2021) and her husband Jeff celebrated 10 years together (5 years married) with a trip to Mexico.
- Gil Shlamovitz (2007), husband Tomer and kids visited family in Israel.

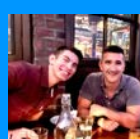
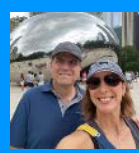
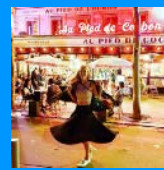
Several Alumni get togethers happened:

- Brandon Firestone (2017), Andie Takemoto (2018), Brian Truong (2018), Jake Wilson (2018) and Adam Evans (2018) keeping their alumni group together with a night out.
- Brandon Endo (2018), Jake Wilson (2018), Brian Truong (2018) and Adam Evans (2018) went backpacking, snow camping, and of course some fishing in the Eastern Sierras.
 - Priscilla Hanudel (2012) celebrated her 40th birthday with some alumni guests (Nick Miniell (2011), Tola Johnson (2012), and some of our great charge and administrative nurses Justine and Kayla.
 - Chris Belfour (2015) and Josh Troke (2015) caught catching up.
 - A trip to Mexico with Caleb Canders (2016), Shamsher Samra (2017), Jake Wilson (2018), Erica, Adam Evans (2018), Hillary and Brandon Firestone (2017), Seema and Greg Tong (2020), Luiz Souza-Filho (2020), Annum Bhullar (2020), Randy Lee (2020) and Pravin.
 - Another alumni bestie trip, Angela Brown (2018), Ashley Sanello (2018), Vicky Nguyen (2018) and families vacationed at Hilton Head.

- A mini reunion in Palm Springs September 2021 with- Rachel Shing (2016), Kit Chang (2016), Ashley Sanello (2016), Caleb Canders (2016), Haleigh Kotter (2017), Brandon Firestone (2017), Jimmy Gordon (2016), Brandon Endo (2018) Brian Truong (2018), Shamsher Samra (2017).
- Brian McNamara (2015) went to Texas to catch up with classmate Jada Roe (2015)
- Tiffany (Hackett) Ferreri (2004), Ritu Malik (2003) and Ilene Claudius (2002) had a mini-alumni get together in Northern California.
- Sarah Medeiros (2014), Hollie Sandlin (2014) and Carolyn Gates (2014) had an alumni get together in Seattle.

The return to going to shows and events:

- Andy Shen (2003) went to the Rolling Stones concert and the Strokes.
- Steff Brenman (2017) and Liz took son Holden to his first hockey game (he is hooked like his moms), and getting a mommy's night out at Hamilton.
- Kyle Ragins (2019) and Gael getting out sporting some UCLA gear.
- Angela Brown (2018), Matt, Sophie and Mackensie got some preHalloween fun at the farm.
- Brian McNamara (2015) and family enjoyed Danny Elfman and symphony performing the Nightmare Before Christmas at the Hollywood Bowl.



Growing Families - Congratulations to Everyone!



Andy Grock and his wife Shira, along with big brother Eli and sister GG welcomed Asher Miles to their family.



Reza Hessabi (2024) and Huong are engaged.



Breena and Taku Taira celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary.



Cat Weaver (2017) and Brian got married.



Micaela Finnegan (2023) and Alex got married. She and her fiancé took wedding clothes up an absurdly steep hike and topped it off with 10 pitches of climbing at 14,000 ft. Ryan Dollbaum (2021) who was still in Greenland for his University of Colorado Wilderness fellowship FaceTimed in and officiated for the wedding. (That is friendship, and some really good cellular service.)



Kenneth Kim (2025) and Naomi got engaged in Hawaii.



Congratulations to Dan Furoy (2011) and family who welcomed Golden "Goldie" Siobhan.



Congratulations to Jackson Kloor (2024) and Sarah on their recent wedding celebration... delayed due to COVID-19 and following an elopement in Las Vegas prior to residency, his classmates were able to celebrate with the happy couple.



Lisa and Greg Hendey (1994) celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary and welcomed their first grandchild over the summer.



Vanessa Kreger (2020) and Brett adopted a fur baby - Daisy.



David Haase (2022) and Aviva got engaged.

Ultrasound Fellow Erica Kiemele-Giss and Charlie welcomed home baby girl Charlotte.



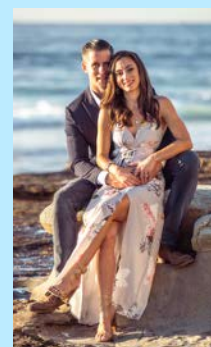
Alumni Family Updates - Congratulations to Everyone!



Brian Truong (2018) and Andie Takemoto (2018) got engaged. Brian enlisted the help of a number of other UCLA alum in the surprise - Andy Caponetti, Greg Tong, Britt Guest, Kellie Kitamura, Allison Caponetti-Ferreira, Seema Tong, and Carmen Partida.



Drew Seefeld (2009) and Sharon are engaged.



Ashely Sanello (2016) and Drew Lofquist are engaged.



Congratulations to Kelli (McCartan) O'Laughlin (2007) and Drew celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary.



Eric Schallert (2017) and wife Kristin celebrated their 7 year wedding anniversary.



Jackie Kurth (2020) and Andrew got married.



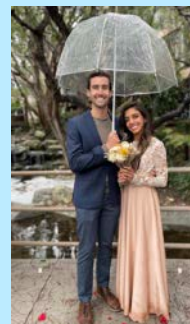
Congratulations to Emily Huang (2015) and her husband who are expecting their first baby.



Tola Johnson-Miniel (2012) and Nick Miniel (2011) celebrated their 7 year anniversary.



Carter Wystrach (2017) and Lia celebrated their 4 yr wedding anniversary.



Annum Bhullar (2020) and Luiz Souza-Filho (2020) got married... classmate Greg Tong (2020) officiated.



Baby Merjanian coming next spring. Congratulations to Mike (2019) and Olivia.



Jess Oswald (2018) and John welcomed baby boy Hunter.



Tabitha Cheng (2018), Tim and big sister Natalie have a new editionHello Madeline!

KUDOS to Our Amazing Faculty, Residents and Alumni

Rising Star Award

Andrew Grock, MD
 • VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System
 • David M. Worthen Rising Star Award for Excellence in Health Professions Education

Presented by Dr. Steven E. Brownman, Director, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System



Congratulations to **Andy Grock**, one of our part time faculty members at Olive View and faculty at the Greater Los Angeles VA who was awarded the 2021 David M. Worthen Awards for Excellence in Health Professions Education, The David M. Worthen Awards are national awards, and the highest honor given by the Veterans Health Administration to recognize outstanding achievements in health professions education. VHA education champions are honored in three categories including: Rising Star, Career Achievement, and Innovator in Health Professions Education. Andy was

assigned the Rising Star award. Each awardee receives a certificate, a \$3000 honoraria, and a plaque is sent to the VA facility they work at to be placed on the wall, and the awardee's name is added to a larger plaque that is displayed at the National Veteran's Health Administration Headquarters. You can read about Andy's nomination and the other award winners in a [VA news briefing/blog](#).



Congratulations to **Breana Taira and Medell Briggs-Malonson**. Both were selected as [2021 EMRA 25 Under 45: Influencers of EM](#). The 25 Under 45 campaign celebrates young influencers in emergency medicine who shape the future in communities, hospitals, and our specialty. Also a big congratulations to our IDHEAL faculty member and colleague as part of our departments SIREN network leadership Dr. Kabir Yadav, who was also named.



Congratulations to **Anna Yap (2022)** for being recognized with the **California ACEP House of Medicine Award**.

This award is 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."



Congratulations to **Atila Uner (1997)** for being recognized with the California ACEP EMS Achievement Award, given to a member who has "contributed significantly to the improvement of the quality and/or coordination of emergency medicine within the larger emergency medical system."



Read all about their nominations and statements in the [Special Edition California Lifeline - Celebrating 50 years](#).



Bianca Judy Choe (FEMBA '22)
 Wooden Fellow 2021

Congratulations to **Judy Choe** who was awarded the [2021 John Wooden Fellowship this year from UCLA Anderson School of Management](#).

"Open to students in the MBA, EMBA, FEMBA, UCLA NUS EMBA, MFE and MSBA programs. UCLA Anderson students are chosen when they demonstrate leadership styles that espouse ethics, team spirit, hard work and loyalty. Each applicant should possess an ability to manage change, have an unquenchable thirst for improvement, constant learning and innovation. Their experiences enrich the UCLA Anderson community, and their leadership values echo Coach Wooden's and his Pyramid of Success."

Judy Choe was nominated for her work during the pandemic organizing a PPE drive to collect and distribute some 10,000 pieces to local hospitals and clinics in desperate need. And to help a hospital in the logarithmic phase, she flew to New York twice to work 14-day stints of daily 12-hour shifts — pre-vaccine — to replace physicians who had contracted COVID-19.

Give a Round of Applause!

This July **Medell Briggs-Malonson** was honored for her outstanding leadership in health equity, diversity and inclusion as the Dodgers Front line Healthcare Worker Community Hero All-star of the Year!



The UCLA Ronald Reagan | Olive View Faculty Teaching Award recognizes exemplary involvement in resident education, both at the bedside and through participation in didactic sessions. The faculty who received the most resident votes for the 2020-2021 UCLA/Olive View Faculty Teaching Award for the first half of year were:

Vanessa Franco (2017) MD, PhD & Steven Lai (2016) MD at UCLA at OVMC

Alan Chiem was appointed as the inaugural Director of Ultrasound Education at the David Geffen School of Medicine, a key component of the new medical school curriculum. He will work closely with the Curricular Affairs Office, course directors, and POCUS experts from multiple specialties, to implement a well-rounded, longitudinal point-of-care ultrasound curriculum that spans all four years. In addition, Alan will continue to serve as a faculty advisor of the Ultrasound Student Interest Group, as well as co-lead of the POCUS component in the Transition to Clerkships and Foundations for Fourth year courses.



Alan also continues as one of the DGSOM Educators for Excellence and has a great doctoring group who surprised him with a birthday cake and celebration.

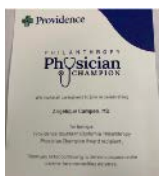


On a personal note, he continues woodworking and has started branding.

Nick Miniel (2011) was given an "Award for Physician of the Year" for the Escondido ED (one of the two Vituity Palomar group's ED sites). Bittersweet given the Vituity contract at the Palomar sites was sold after 40+ years there to another corporate EM group displacing Nick and **Tola Johnson-Miniel (2012)** also an award winning alumna EP. They are thankfully settling into new ED locations and thriving.



Angelique Campen (2000) was recognized with the Providence Southern California Philanthropy Physician Champion Award. She helped raise \$70 million for the new St. Joseph's Emergency Department build.



Andy Grock & Caroline Humphreys (2020) received special recognition for their exceptional work as a peer-reviewer. Andy is a reviewer for WestJEM which has a mentored review program, and this created the opportunity for Education Fellow Caroline to provide comment on a paper. In the recognition the editor wrote, "*Each year a number of reviewers stand out for their (1) detailed reviews, (2) grasp of the tenets of education scholarship and (3) efforts to provide feedback that mentors authors on how to improve. I would like to congratulate you on earning the recognition of being a WestJEM Special Issue '2021 Gold Standard Reviewer'.*" Way to go!



Congratulations to **Jaime Jordan** who will serve as the inaugural Director of Discovery at the David Geffen School of Medicine, a key component of the new curriculum. The Discovery course (in year three) is a nine-month course that will provide students with an opportunity to pursue scholarly activities in one of eight areas of concentration (AoC). In her role as Director of Discovery, she will work closely with the pre-clerkship course directors and the Intersessions Director to incorporate introductory activities into the first year and preparation activities into the second year that will prepare all students for the Discovery year. Key tasks include ensuring AoC have an enriching set of experiences, relevant scholarly activities, and an appropriate deliverable at the end of each project. In addition, Dr. Jordan will ensure that all students receive regular, high-quality mentorship during their Discovery year.

On the national level she was appointed to the ACEP Workforce Solutions Taskforce, and selected as Vice Chair of the CORD Education Best Practices Subcommittee.

Plaudits



Anna Yap (2022) and **Kenneth Kim (2025)** were selected as speakers for the [EMRA/YPs Drop The Mic – Advocacy](#) event. There was a very competitive selection process - so it is amazing that we had 2 residents selected for the 5 minute TED style talks. The Drop The Mic speaker series took place during the EMRA and ACEP Young Physician section (YPS) [Health Policy Primer](#) at the [ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference](#).



Welcome the 2021-2022 UCLA Minority Housestaff Organization (MHO) Executive Board. The Board is composed of a diverse group of historically underrepresented minority physicians and allies who aim to advance equitable health for all patients, diversity in medicine, mentorship within our community, inclusion within the educational and clinical environment, and service to the greater community of Los Angeles County. The MHO is composed of three committees: Community and Professional Development, Community Investment and Recruitment and Health System Equity. Each committee has established initiatives in place to uphold the ideals of the MHO. Our residency program has two board members leading on different committees. Congratulations to **Chase Richard (2023)** on the Community Investment and Recruitment Committee, and to **Reza Hessabi (2024)** on the Health System Equity Committee.

The MHO celebrated (safely outdoors) their efforts at a holiday gala.



Haig Aintablian (2022) traveled back to Armenia in July, (following his prior trip during the Nagorno-Karabakh war), to work to establish a free clinic for those affected by the war. He also taught ultrasound techniques to residents at Erebuni Medical Center and is a part of a group of Armenian American EM physicians helping to start the first EM residency in Armenia. The [Armenia Hero Project](#) is a grassroots organization one of Haig's friends started to help provide aid for Armenian soldiers (things like creature comforts all the way to tents and bulletproof vests). While In Armenia Haig visited one of the active bases that was critical during the war. He was awarded a Military Honor from the Armed Forces of Armenia to thank him for his help providing combat medicine during the war.



Christian Hernandez (2025) continues to work with the regional Midwest and national Latino Medical Student Association boards, with invited speaking engagements and panels and host talks. The Minority Health Organization at UCLA is funding him to represent UCLA GME at the national conference this coming March 2022.



Jackie Shibata was elected as Co-Lead for the Olive View Subcommittee of DHS's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism initiative. This is an interdisciplinary countywide initiative to evaluate current DHS practices and make

meaningful and sustainable culture and policy updates that are rooted in EDIA values and implement trauma-informed principles throughout the county healthcare system.

Laudations

Britt Guest (2019) is on the Editorial Board for the new EM:RAP-based study guides: Johnson Whitney. [EM:RAP Resident Study Guides](#). In: Mattu A and Swadron S, ed. CorePendium. Burbank, CA: CorePendium, LLC.



She is a content creator and faculty for EM:RAPs Daily Dose - *A new spaced repetition program to deliver custom content daily, including short fund videos with the best pearls from recent episodes throughout the EM:RAP Multiverse.*

She co-hosted the December 2021 Emergency Medical Abstracts (EMA) edition with **Sanjary Arora (2005)**.

She continues to teach abroad, virtually in Kenya, lecturing on trauma in pregnancy and pediatric board review session.



She also hosts residents on an education elective, with John Mark Sawyer (2023) and Nate Coggins (2023) recently visiting the EM:RAP studio.

Next big project that she is working on is EM:RAP's first in-person LIVE conference called EM:RAP ONE, which will be at UCLA Luskin Conference Center April 19-21.

David Talan (1986) and **Bill Mower (1990)** are co-PIs on a new multimillion dollar grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to develop a Multivalent Toxoid Vaccine for recurrent *Staphylococcus aureus* disease.



This year's ACEP teaching fellowship was back in person in Dallas, a little different with 2 sessions and much larger groups working together. **Rebecca Bavolek** again gave several lectures and education fellow **Caroline Humphreys (2021)** attended the course. Her curriculum development that she will present in spring is an EMS Base Station simulation project - using a low fi sim to give residents training in taking base station calls.



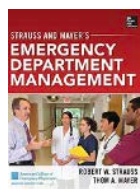
Congratulations to **Pam Dyne (1995)** for her [blog post on Kevin MD](#).



Being a doctor is holy work

PAMELA DYNE, MD | PHYSICIAN | SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

Pam was appointed to the UCLA GME CLEO committee (Clinical Learning Environment Oversight), which reviews instances of mistreatment or unprofessionalism in the clinical learning environment.

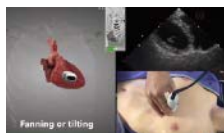


She co-authored a book chapter: Mohr NM, Moreno-Walton L, Smith-Coggins R, Mills AM, Larrabee H, **Dyne PL**, Clem KJ, Promes SB. Generational Differences in Emergency Medicine. In *Strauss and Mayer's Emergency Department Management*, 2nd edition. 2021.

She also tried out axe throwing as a new COVID-19 activity and hit a bullseye.



Alan Chiem walks us through 6 steps to master your echo skills - a post tweeted about from the ACEP Ultrasound Section. Do you need a refresher? Check out this [YouTube video](#) or the [ACEP Ultrasound FOAM post](#).



Six Steps to Mastering your Echocardiography Skills

From the Medical Student Education Subcommittee of the ACEP Emergency Ultrasound Section

Alan Chiem, MD, MPH, FACEP
Director, Ultrasound Department of Emergency Medicine, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center
Associate Professor of EM at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Reza Hessabi (2024) was featured in the [Dartmouth Medicine Magazine August 2021](#). The newsletter featured three recent alumni in different emergency medicine programs.

DARTMOUTH MEDICINE

The Magazine of the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Home News & Articles Past Issues About Alumni Support Geisel Search

FEATURES
A Year Like No Other
Written by Susan Green - August 6, 2021

Reza Hessabi MD '21

A second-year resident in the UCLA/Harvard Program in Emergency Medicine Residency Program, Hessabi is committed to eliminating the negative effects of health inequities by advocating for changes in healthcare policy.



In the Media

Priscilla Hanudel (2012) has been featured on a number of media outlets and formats. She has been repeatedly featured on local KABC7 news broadcasts, on topics such as the return to school and kids wearing masks in Los Angeles in July 2021. She has been featured regularly answering other COVID-19 related questions, in August discussing booster vaccination shots and return to school precautions. She has been on several subsequent KABC & other local (KTLA 5 News).



In addition to the news broadcasts, Priscilla has been interviewed for several online news features. This includes an ABC Medical Unit interview about a questionable video in which the San Diego Sheriff's department attributed a deputy collapse to fentanyl and how that was unlikely the etiology.



She has been interviewed and cited on line as well, in a [Medscape article](#) in relation to the controversy in September 2021 about who needs boosters and when and she was also [interviewed by BBC news](#) about COVID-19 boosters.

Doctors Divided About Need for COVID-19 Boosters: Poll

Donavyn Coffey
September 10, 2021

Covid-19: When will booster jabs be available in the US?



bbc.com
Covid-19: When will booster jabs be available in the US?

Antelope Valley partner, **Larry Stock**, is a Deputy Mayor for the City of Lancaster and was featured in a public service announcement about pool safety and drowning prevention. He was also featured on cbs2 news discussing important measures to stay safe during the July heat waves.



Angelique Campen (2000) was featured on KCAL 9 News in Los Angeles talking about the COVID-19 booster approval for Moderna and J&J, and on Channel 2 News In Los Angeles about the Omicron variant.



Matt Waxman (2007) is featured on FOX11 news, In Depth with Hal Eisner, about twice a month as the COVID-19 correspondent.



Armand Dorian (2003) continues to be featured on ExtraTV and other newscasts providing education on COVID-19.



Anthony Cardillo (2006) continues as a medical expert providing guidance to the Los Angeles KABC channel 7 local news about all things COVID-19.



Haig Aintablian (2022) spoke on PanArmenian TV discussing COVID vaccination and debunking myths and conspiracies. He has



also been featured on KTLA5 News in Los Angeles, CBS news and BBC news.



Eric Snyder (2008) has been featured on several local Los Angeles newscasts discussing the COVID-19 epidemic.



Tola Johnson-Miniel (2012) was featured in a brief on ABC10 San Diego Makeover Monday segments.



Kudos for our Antelope Valley Partners



AVEMA was heavily involved in the COVID-19 response in the Antelope Valley. Antelope Valley Hospital was at the epicenter of LA County's third wave of COVID-19 this past winter. Here are just a few things that AVEMA did:

(1) **Lawrence Stock** was asked by the Mayor of Lancaster to co-head the City's Covid Task Force and he was given the title of Deputy Mayor, badge and all. Larry was hugely responsible for coordinating and leading the Covid response between the City, Antelope Valley Hospital, and multiple other stakeholders.



- (2) **Michael Gertz and Daniel Khodbakhsh** served on the Aerospace Valley Task Force, coordinating with members of NASA, Virgin Galactic, hyperloop, Lockheed-Martin, and Northrop-Grumman to develop innovations to treat Covid patients. These included self contained negative pressure patient enclosures, Bipap hoods and intubation boxes as well as 3D printing PPE. As a result, they never had a shortage of PPE at AVH.
- (3) **Thomas Lee**, in coordination with his NGO, Community Partners International, and **Naresh Ramarajan (2014)** coordinated a multi-million dollar distribution of plane loads of oxygen concentrators to India and other areas in South Asia. Tom also helped direct the Covid health response for 1 million Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and the response by state health departments in Burma.
- (4) **Loren Rauch** brought thousands of gallons of hand sanitizer to distribute to Navajo families and did a needs assessment and PPE donation to 10 Native American health centers and hospitals.
- (5) During the winter surge, AVEMA helped the intensivists care for patients by staffing an additional shift daily. This "resuscitation" MD helped manage sick Covid patients outside the ICU, helping to determine when patients required intubation. Additionally, the resuscitation MD was often a proceduralist for the intensivists, doing the central lines, HD lines, intubations, etc.

Michael Gertz co-authored the [ACEP point of care tool for the treatment of patient with autism spectrum disorder in the ED](#) with co-author UCLA Psychiatry faculty Sheryl Kataoka, Jena Lee and Connie Kasari. He also co-authored the [California ACEP Firearm Injury Prevention Policy](#).



Community Partners International (CPI), the NGO that **Tom Lee** helped found has been providing service and support in Myanmar, Nepal, Bangladesh and elsewhere.

- In Nepal, CPI provided oxygen concentrators and worked with Kitten Nursery Club and in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Population-Nepal, MIT Group Foundation, the Bhrikuti Devi Trust, the Non-Resident Nepali Association, the Nepal Institute for Development Studies and the World Food Programme to distribute them to vulnerable communities.
- In Myanmar, CPI worked in partnership with the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) to provide care including testing equipment, PPE, oxygen concentrators, medicine and medical supplies and helped KDHW expand testing and risk awareness through their network of village tract health centers.
- At the Kutupalong Refugee Camp in Ukhiya CPI worked in collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh, Rohingya volunteers and Green Hill helped to vaccinate elderly refugees against COVID 19. CPI and local partner Green Hill also began site preparation for a new Health Post in at the refugee camp. The Health Post will provide a range of outpatient primary health care to the Rohingya refugee community including curative care, maternal and newborn health, preventive health, child health, family planning, gender-based violence care, nutrition, communicable disease care and prevention, and mental health care.
- CPI is helping the Rakhaing Women's Union (RWU) provide emergency humanitarian relief to communities affected by conflict and displacement in Rakhine State, Myanmar.
- In July and August, severe flooding affected areas of Kawkaik and Kyainseikgyi townships in (Karen) State, Myanmar. With support from the UNFPA's Women and Girls First Program, CPI worked with the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) to provide emergency relief to flood-affected communities. KDHW teams distributed basic food supplies, drinking water, face masks and hand sanitizer.



For more information and to support this work go to the [CPI website](#) and/or follow on **Instagram @cp_intl**. There are several corporate donors and organizations that help with matching funds.

Kudos to our residents, fellows, faculty and alumni

Congratulations to the 2021-2022 Cal ACEP Board of Directors members. Alumna **Valerie Norton (1995)** continues her leadership, ascending this year President-Elect (she will be president September 2022) and Antelope Valley partner, **Mike Gertz** is Vice President.



Valerie Norton, MD, FACEP
President-Elect
Department: Board of Directors

Dr. Norton is a practicing emergency physician at Scripps Mercy Hospital, Emergency Services. She graduated from medical school at University of California School of Medicine and residency at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center/ Olive View UCLA. Dr. Norton is board certified in emergency medicine and is the current Vice President of California ACEP.



Michael Gertz, MD, FACEP
Vice President
Department: Board of Directors

Dr. Gertz is a practicing emergency physician at Antelope Valley Hospital and Los Robles Hospital Medical Center. He graduated from medical school at University of Chicago and residency at University of California, San Francisco - Fresno. Dr. Gertz is board certified in emergency medicine and is the current Secretary and board member of California ACEP.

Valerie Norton (1995), is looking to recruit more providers (ALUMNI THAT IS YOU), who are interested in serving on the CalACEP board of directors. Everyone on the board has different skill sets —people need not be “experts” in public policy or legislative advocacy. They need folks who understand different practice environments or other aspects of our specialty such as healthcare equity, reimbursement issues, EMS systems, etc. If you are interested in knowing more contact the [newsletter editor](#) and I will connect you.



When not leading CalACEP, Val continues as Chief Operating Executive at Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego and President of Pacific Emergency Physicians. Scripps Health, had all 4 of its EDs successfully accredited as Geriatric EDs in 2022, the fruition of two years of work. They are also the first in the region to implement COVID vaccination and monoclonal antibody infusions in their EDs.



The Scripps Health team also secured another round of funding through the California Bridge Program to continue MAT programs in all of our EDs. Val notes they are seeing more and more fentanyl in our community, with many accidental overdoses.

Outside of work, Val takes great solace in hiking, music, and her amazing partner, friends, and family.

Who are you following?

Instagram

Are you following the residency on Instagram? **@UCLA-EM**. Did you know we have several faculty and alumni who have instagram accounts providing information to the public?

Check out **Eric Snyder (2008) @ask_the_md**, **Angelique Campen (2000) @glamerdoc**, **Claudie Bolduc (2021) @pulse_check_md**, **Armand Dorian (2003) @Docdorian**, **Thomas Hemingway (2006) @alohasurfdoc**, **Sarah Medeiros (2014) @drsarahem**, and **Haig Aintablian (2022) @haig.md**



Look Who's Talking

Rebecca Bavolek - West Coast Medical Student Symposium at Cal/AAEM

West Coast Medical Student Symposium
September 4, 2021



Medell Briggs-Malonson:

- Keynote speaker for the DGSOM Gold Humanism Society student induction
- University of California Sepsis Awareness virtual event September 2021 *"Exploring Health Inequities in Sepsis Care and Outcomes"*

Michael Levine:

- Grand Rounds at West Hills Medical Center *"Alcohol Use Disorder"*
- Grand Rounds at Oakland Medical Center, Richmond TX: *"Drug Induced Rigidity Syndromes: NMS and Serotonin Syndrome"*
- Grand Rounds at Anaheim Medical Center: *"Alcohol Withdrawal"*



Carolyn Sachs (1994)

- Grand Rounds at Emante Intercommunity Hospital: *"Calm, Cool, Collected in Chaos"* and *"Workplace Violence"*
- Invited lecture at Humboldt State Medical Society Meeting: *"Physician Wellbeing"*



Eric Savitsky (1995)

- Grand Rounds at Harbor UCLA: *"Expanding the EM Toolkit: Considering Resuscitative TEE"*

Andy Grock

- Evidence-based Approach to the Use of Sodium Bicarbonate. EM:RAP AudioDigest Emergency Medicine 38:21

Jaime Jordan

- *"Project Management in Education Research"* for the Advanced Research Methodology Evaluation and Design in Medical Education (ARMED MedED) program

Britt Guest (2019)

- Lectured at Rick Bukata's Emergency Medicine and Acute Care, EM Boot Camp in Las Vegas: *"Headaches – Don't Miss the Serious Ones," "TIAs and Strokes, State of the Art,"* and *"Neuropsychiatric Disorders"*



Jackie Shibata, Amir Tabibnia, and Kareem Agunbiade

- instructors at the Hands on Emergency Ultrasound Workshop the Center for Medical Education's at Rick Bukata's Emergency Medicine and Acute Care, EM Boot Camp in Las Vegas

David Talan (1986)

- Grand Rounds at University of Pennsylvania Emergency Medicine and Surgery, *"Non-Operative Treatment of Appendicitis"*
- *"Single-Dose Long-Acting IV Antibiotic for Skin Infections," EM:RAP*

Sara Crager (2015)

- Grand Rounds *"Mentalidad de Resuscitologo"* at the Medicina de Emergencia Hospital San Juan de Dios; San Jose, Costa Rica
- Invited Lecturer, *"Hemorrhagic Shock and Massive Transfusion,"* at the Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Emergency Medicine
- Invited Lecturer *"Reimagining Shock: A Tale of Three Pressors,"* at the Association de Medecins d'Urgence du Quebec Bring Me Back to Life Conference
- Faculty, [ResusX Conference](#): Virtual Conference
- Invited Lecturer *"Physiology to Practice: Rescuing the Right Ventricle,"* Northeast Georgia Trauma and Critical Care Symposium



Erica Kiemele-Giss

- Invited speaker (to inspire students in chemistry that you don't have to become a chemist to use your chemistry degree) at the 51st IUPAC General Assembly/48th World Chemistry Congress/104th Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition - Session: Future leaders in the Chemical Sciences. *"An Unconventional Route to Indigenous Health"*

Great Work!



Hannah Spungen (2022) presented an abstract, "Serum Creatinine Kinase as a Predictor of

Rhabdomyolysis and Acute Renal Failure in Patients with Sympathomimetic Toxicity" at the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology.

Michael Levine also had a lightning platform oral presentation at the conference "Adulteration of Illicit Drugs in ED Patients with Acute Opioid Overdose: A Multicenter Cohort."



As if residency coordinator **Jennifer Cassidy** was not busy enough keeping all of us in line, she is staying on the CORD Board of Directors as EMARC Liaison for a second year. Usually this is a one year commitment but they voted for her to stay on another year. She is also the EMARC Jr. track chair for the CORD AA conference (this is a three year commitment. She also recently passed the national board of certification TAGME (Training Administrators for Graduate Medical Education).

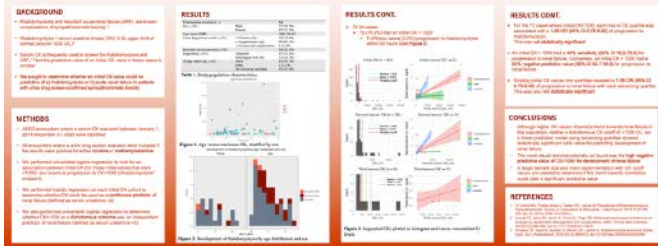


UCLA

SERUM CREATINE KINASE AS A PREDICTOR OF RHABDOMYOLYSIS AND ACUTE RENAL FAILURE IN PATIENTS WITH SYMPATHOMIMETIC TOXICITY

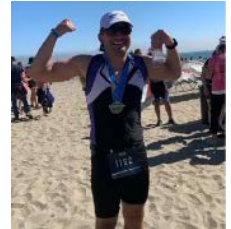
Hannah Spungen MD MPH¹, Michael Levine MD², Stephen H Thomas MD MPH^{1,3,4}

¹UCLA System, Integrated Clinical Emergency Medicine Residency, ²Department of Emergency Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, ³UCLA System, Integrated Clinical Emergency Medicine Residency, ⁴UCLA System, Integrated Clinical Emergency Medicine Residency



Stephen Villa co-authored a chapter in M B Weinstock and K Klauer (Eds). *Bouncebacks! Critical Care*. "Chapter 24: A 29-year-old quadriplegic tracheostomy patient with fever and respiratory distress."

On a personal note he completed the Santa Cruz half ironman triathlon.



Sara Crager (2015) has recorded several new videocasts on EM:RAP - "Cognitive Approach to Resuscitation," "Reimagining Shock," and "Rescuing the Right Ventricle." She was also a featured speaker on an Emergency Medicine Resident Association Podcast, "Hemorrhagic Shock."

In addition she has continued her global teaching giving several lectures (in Spanish) to the incoming Guatemalan emergency medicine interns at the Instituto Guatemalteco de Seguridad Social; Guatemala City, Guatemala.

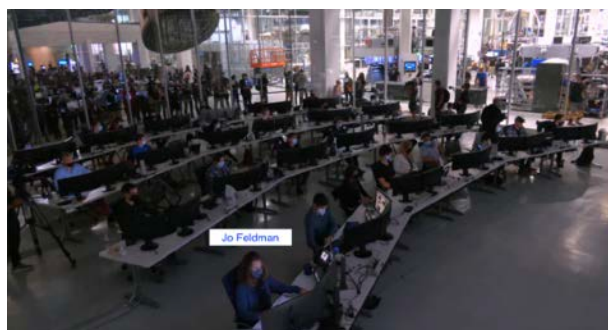
(Basically the equivalent of intern bootcamp... they just call it 'Semana de inducción' rather than 'bootcamp' for obvious historical reasons): "Abordaje a dolor abdominal," "Abordaje a Distrés Respiratoria," "Mentalidad de Emergenciólogo," and "Abordaje a las Arritmias."



Matt Waxman (2007) became a board member of [Drugs and Diagnostics for Tropical Diseases \(DDTD\)](#): a biotech nonprofit organization which partners with the WHO in designing molecular point of care diagnostics for neglected tropical diseases such as lymphatic filariasis. DDTD received an award from the health commissioner for San Diego County.

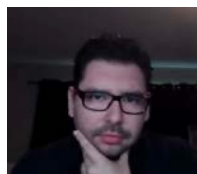


Jo Feldman continues her wilderness medicine work with SpaceX. She worked at Mission Control for SpaceX in Hawthorne September 2021 for the Inspiration4 Mission - the Falcon 9 and Dragon with an all civilian crew launched into space. She is the designated flight surgeon, and worked to monitor throughout the 3 day orbit. The launch was streamed live and you can see videos at the SpaceX website and youtube.



Way to Go Class of 2022!

Congratulations to **Ignacio "Nacho" Calles (2022)** for matching into the Medical Education Fellowship at

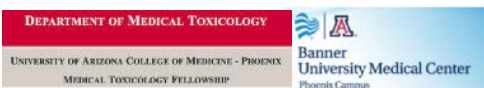
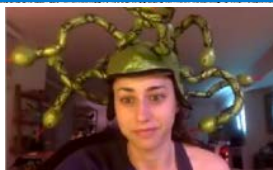


USC+Keck Emergency Medicine. He will be working on his masters and already has a research project lined up to improve diversity recruitment with his long term goal of ascending to become a Medical School Dean and continue his work to eliminate the term Under-represented in Medicine.



Keck School of Medicine of USC

Congratulations to **Hannah Spungen (2022)** for matching into the Toxicology Fellowship at Phoenix, the same program Michael Levine trained at. The program not only runs their own service they have a Toxicology ICU they admit to and manage the patients. Way to go!



Congratulations to **John Keller (2022)** for matching into

Toxicology Fellowship at UCSF. John has been a resident with a definite focus, knowing this was his path when he was interviewing for residency and he will be on his way at this excellent program.

Medical Toxicology at UCSF



Montefiore | EINSTEIN

Congratulations to **Jimmy Murphy (2022)** for matching into Pulmonary Critical Care fellowship at Montefiore in New York City.



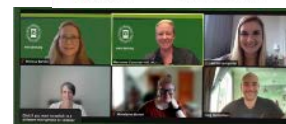
Critical Care Medicine Fellowship Program



Congratulations to **Anna Yap (2022)**, who in addition to her CalACEP award also won an EMRA travel grant. She was elected to the [CMA Board of Trustees](#), appointed to the American Medical Association Political Action Committee Board of Trustees, re-elected to the AMA house of delegates, and was appointed to the CalACEP Membership Committee. She passed 2 policies at the AMA (Yap A, Libby C, et al. Dissolution of the Resolution Committee. AMA-RFS Policy Compendium; and Libby C, Yap A, et al. (2021, Nov). Medicare Coverage of Dental, Vision, and Hearing Services. AMA-RFS Policy Compendium.). in her free time (ha!) she officiated at a friends wedding. We are lucky she is going to be our admin fellow next year, see p15.

Congratulations to **Haig Aintablian (2022)** who continues advocacy, speaking with ABEM leadership and a leadership role as an AAEM/ RSA the Liaison to the AAEM EM Workforce Committee. He is our first space medicine fellow, see p16.

MEET OUR LEADERSHIP



Michelle Brennan (2022) started a new harm reduction initiative at UCLA (undergrad) called *Bruins Against Fentanyl OD* - fundraising, obtaining test strip kits, educational presentations, and giving out the free strips in dorms, fraternities/sororities, at the student union and she's been sending them (free) to people that respond to the advertising and ask for them. Her undergrad volunteer collaborators include a number of our undergraduate research volunteers (EMRA), in addition to Dr. Rauch's (AV) son's friends at UCLA. Thanks to Dr. Wojtal for her assistance in helping Michelle obtain naloxone for distribution as well.



David Haase (2022) presented a talk discussing TXA in the TBI literature at the Special Operations Medical Scientific Assembly (SOMSA) - "10 Papers that Should Have Changed Your Practice in the Last Year."



He also co-authored an online educational post with **Stephen Villa** for [ALiEM - EMRad: Radiologic Approach to the Traumatic Hip/Pelvis.](#)



Kudos UCLA EM and Alumni



American Board of
Emergency Medicine

Eric Snyder (2008) is an official ABEM oral examiner.

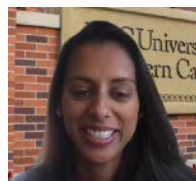
He also completed training and is now an official pilot. Flying the friendly skies and checking out Los Angeles at night too!



(UN)JUST RECOVERY: ADDRESSING COVID-RELATED INEQUALITIES IN LOS ANGELES

Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021
Noon-1 p.m. PDT

Multiple divisions across USC participated in a virtual panel (Un)Just Recovery: Addressing COVID-Related Inequalities in Los Angeles. Each division discussed projects they have been working on. The [Division of Global Emergency Medicine](#) and the [USC-Keck Human Rights Clinic](#) at the USC Keck School of Medicine addressed the health and rights of vulnerable populations in Los Angeles. Division Chief **Parveen Parmar (2008)** and former research fellow, **Todd Schneberk** participated in the panel and two of their fellows discussed their projects related to impact of access to substance use disorder treatment during COVID-19, and impact of COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy and the carceral population. The goal of the seminar was to share clinical perspectives on "recovery" from the pandemic, the health realities still faced by survivors of COVID and those not reached by vaccination campaigns, and continued challenges in providing care during the current rise in cases due to the delta variant.



Low vaccinations, rising infections and more crowding at ICE detention centers

The World



Theresa Cheng

(2021) was [interviewed](#) by The World, public radio's weekly podcast, on the COVID outbreak in ICE detention centers. The interview was also the source of a

follow-up [on line news publication](#).

Theresa published an [Op-Ed in MEDPAGE TODAY](#) on the topic of COVID-19 spreading ICE detention centers in MedPage Today.

Opinion • Second Opinions

COVID Is Spreading Like Wildfire in ICE Facilities
— Decarceration, reducing transfers, and public health measures can help

By Theresa Cheng, MD, JD July 15, 2021

MEDPAGE TODAY



Theresa and Jeff are settling into their new house in the Mission district of San Francisco as Theresa continues her Skadden-Arps fellowship.



She is just around the corner from **Sneha Shrestha (2018)**, and she is working clinically at UCSF General, along side alumni such as **Jeff Tabas (1998)** and at a community hospital ED with Vituity and **Tiffany (Hackett) Ferreri (2004)**.



Rachel Shing

(2016) has been thriving as an ultrasound fellow in Boston.

Working there has also brought her

back to one of her other passions, Global Health. She was instrumental in the development and support of the EM in Haiti when she had finished residency and was working at Olive View Part-time. Now in Boston, she has more opportunities and is pursuing BMC Global Health fellow next year and will be receiving her masters at the Boston University School of Public Health.



Faculty Mentor of the Year

Jessica Oswald, MD | UC-San Diego

CONGRATULATIONS!

EMRA is pleased to recognize the following individuals as recipients of EMRA's Winter 2021 Awards.

Congratulations to **Jess Oswald (2018)** for being awarded the EMRA Faculty Mentor of the Year Award.

BRAVO!



Congratulations to **Zac Gray (2004)** who was elected Chief of Staff at Torrance Memorial

Hospital for 2022. He was also appointed to the Board of Directors for the medical center and the medical network this year. He continues to serve on the Torrance Memorial ACO board. He also continues as co-medical director of the ED alongside **Brian Miura (1997)** and our non-UCLA colleague Gretchen Lent. He is still an emergency physician first, working regularly in the ED and his children and wife Violette (also in a leadership position with the Cedars Sinai Medical Group) are thriving as well.



Congratulations to **Armand Dorian (2003)** for being [named CEO of USC Verdugo Hills Hospital.](#)

Nate Friedman (2021) has been learning a lot as a UCSD Toxicology Fellow and delivering some pearls with his new TikTok presence as Jeff the Tox Guy.



David Presser (2003) is taking a career pivot. In January 2022, he'll be leaving the ED to become the Associate Chief Medical Officer of Torrance Memorial IPA. In this role he will keep serving the same health system he has spent his career working with in the South Bay in a new capacity, through the lens of population health management. He is looking forward to the *"chance to use my brain in a new way, employing analytic skills and satisfying intellectual curiosity stirred back when I pursued my MPH"* during his fellowship.



Tyler Barrett (2005) was officially promoted to Professor.



He is also now the chair of the ACEP Reimbursement Committee Workgroup 4.

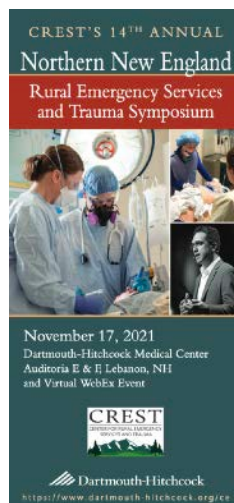
During COVID-19 he and the family took up golf as their pandemic activity and his son Ryan, 16, is already better than him and playing for his high school team.



In addition to lecturing at ACEP, **Jeff Tabas (1998)** presented "AMI Rule Out:

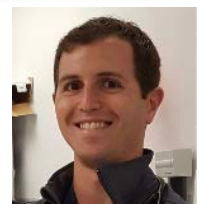
Understanding the Troponins" at the [CREST \(Center for Rural Emergency Services and Trauma\) 14th Annual Symposium](#) hosted

by **Scott Rodi (1998)**, Chair of EM at Dartmouth Hitchcock.



He also co-chaired a series for the UCSF Osher Minimedical School for the Public entitled: "What's Next 2021: COVID-19, Science, and the Public Health."

Congratulations to **Tom Akie (2021)** - He just started his research fellowship in July 2021 and has already been offered a full time academic track position at University of Massachusetts. His current research is clinical and translational work that capitalizes on his prior knowledge/work in bench science when he completed his PhD.



Ryan Dollbaum (2021) spent his first couple months of his wilderness fellowship at University of Colorado practicing remote medicine at the [Summit Camp Station](#), a year-round staffed research station near the apex of the Greenland ice sheet.



Amazing!



This December, **Steve Rottman**, UCLA Emergency Medicine Professor Emeritus retired from being the Medical Director for Burbank Fire after 41 years. His successor, is another UCLA Emergency Medicine Residency alumna, **Tabitha Cheng (2016)**.



Tabitha Cheng (2016) is finishing up her pediatric EM fellowship and remains active with the UCLA prehospital center. She has been



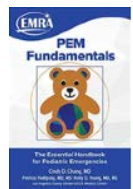
EIIC Emergency Medical Services for Children
Innovation and Improvement Center

appointed as a [fellow to the Emergency Medical Services for Children \(EMSC\)](#)

[Innovation and Improvement Center \(EIIC\)](#) prehospital pediatric readiness

steering committee and part of the EIIC knowledge management domain. Tabitha is a continual learner and has been selected for a lot of fellowships – first taking an extra year in medical school to be a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Experience Applied Epidemiology Fellow, and then after residency completing an EMS fellowship a UC San Diego and currently finishing up year two of her Pediatric EM fellowship at Harbor-UCLA. The EMSC Fellows Program “is designed to support trainees and early career professionals with an opportunity to engage in EIIC-led efforts to better understand systems-based strategies for improvement. Fellows are invited to serve on national steering committees to better understand the work of EMSC stakeholders. Fellows are assigned to a single area of focus and one or more EIIC mentors who will provide ongoing support and opportunities for participation.” The group just released their [Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Toolkit](#).

She has also co-authored a FOAM source learning module - [Cheng T, Whitfield D. Pediatric Seizure Learning Module for the Prehospital Provider. Online Module. OPENPediatrics](#).



She is the editor for: Chapter 86 Orthopedics: Back Pain & Discitis; Chapter 87. Orthopedics: Limp; Chapter 88. Orthopedics: Nursemaid's Elbow; Chapter 89. Orthopedics: Orthopedic Infections; Chapter 90. Orthopedics: Osgood-Schlatter, Servers and other Apophysitis; In PEM Fundamentals: The Essential Handbook for Pediatric Emergencies, July 2021.



She and her class of 2018 classmates remain close, with her daughter Natalie making **Brian Truong** read her a bedtime story, which **Andie Takemoto** and

Brandon Endo appreciated as well.



Gregg Greenough (1996) is co-director of the Humanitarian Geo-analytics Program at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) and teaches research methods for humanitarian populations at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) is a University-wide academic and research center in humanitarian crisis and leadership. HHI's aim is to relieve human suffering in war and disaster by conducting interdisciplinary, practice-based research and education that can be used by scholars, policymakers, NGOs, and others to foster interdisciplinary collaboration in order to:

- Improve the effectiveness of humanitarian strategies for relief, protection, and prevention;
- Instill human rights principles and practices in these strategies; and
- Educate and train the next generation of humanitarian leaders.



Gregg is spatial epidemiologist who studies public health in conflict- and disaster-affected populations. He worked in relief operations in the Balkans, Central America, the US, and Haiti and has researched nutrition and food security (West Bank and Gaza Strip), refugee health systems (Colombia, Tanzania, Kenya, Thailand), human security and landmines (Angola, Lebanon), mass sheltering and disease (Hurricane Katrina, US Gulf Coast), mass gathering surveillance systems (India), gender-based health outcomes (Darfur, Cameroon, Syria, Bangladesh), the use of open platforms, mapping, spatial and remote-sensing tools (Colombia, US Gulf Coast, Bangladesh) and climate and crisis modeling (Somaliland). He currently focuses on spatial analysis and remote-sensing applications to health outcomes of populations in crisis, exploring implications of climate variability, resource availability, environmental justice and urbanization on human migration and health.

More Alumni Kudos & News



Allison Santi (2005) is part of a team (with Drs. Hanni Stoklosa, Makini Chisolm-Straker, Stacy Reynolds, and Wendy Macias Konstantopoulos) that received a [section grant from ACEP](#) to create a series of four 30-minute CME online modules for Human Trafficking education. The modules include Human Trafficking 101: The Essentials (by Allison), Identification and Assessment of Trafficked Persons in the ED, Complex Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care for Trafficking Survivors, and Human Trafficking Response Protocols for Emergency Departments. The project has taken a couple years to complete but all the modules are now recorded and will soon be published by ACEP and available to ACEP members.

She is now doing a fellowship at the Dr Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine. She received a partial scholarship because of her work with Human Trafficking survivors. She hopes to a practice in Integrative Medicine in the future, and in addition to her emergency medicine work she has joined a House Call practice.

Parveen Parmar (2008) spent a week in September at the Airport Marriott in Philadelphia to coordinate clinical care for arriving Afghani refugees following the US pull out of the country. She was working with Dr Trisha Henwood of global health and ultrasound fame in an effort called Operation Allies a collaboration between Temple University and Thomas Jefferson University.

She was interviewed for a [Her Story Podcast](#) - "Women make up 70% of the healthcare workforce but only 20% of its leadership. On *Her Story*, host Sanjula Jain explores the careers of bold and influential women from Silicon Valley to Capitol Hill and learn how they've overcome the odds and explore what's beyond the glass ceiling."

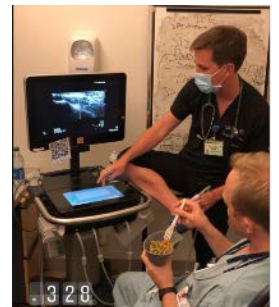


Tola Johnson-Miniel (2012) continues to work as an EM provider at Redlands Community Hospital, and she is also the is the new Director of

Wellness for Holden Timeless Beauty - focusing her efforts on IV therapy, nutritional counseling and hormone optimization.



Caleb Canders (2016) is settling down a little with a few less areas and job sites. He will be working half-time at the Long Beach VA and half-time at UCLA (so we are grateful to he will be around for more than just flying in for strings of nights). He will still work a couple of shifts at OV. He remains active as one of our favorite teachers and regularly creates opportunities for resident scholarship, helping them publish interesting ultrasound videos/cases and co-authoring opportunities for EM reports. Here he is doing some ultrasound teaching at 3:28am.



COURSE DIRECTORS

Patricia A. Brock, MD
Deputy Chair
Associate Professor
Medical Director
Emergency Medicine

Demis N. Lipe, MD
Assistant Professor
Emergency Medicine

Monica Wattana, MD
Assistant Professor
Emergency Medicine



Congratulations to **Monica Wattana (2012)** who is one of the Course

Directors for a Virtual Oncologic Emergency Medicine Conference. [Click here for more information on the conference and registration.](#)

Michael Casner (2019) is moving... going back to Chicago. A good change, returning to the city where he was working during his Vituity Administrative fellowship. He has enjoyed and will continue to return to work as part-time faculty at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

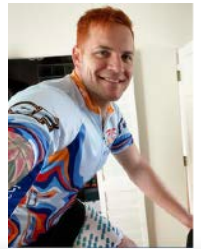


Applause for Alumni

Support Mike Casner (2019) and AIDS LifeCycle 2022



The AIDS lifecycle has long had the support of our EM program which has provided medical direction for the event at its inception and for several of the events over the years. The AIDS LifeCycle 2022 is back in person this year. The weeklong, 545-mile bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles in June 2022 is an important fundraising event. **Mike Casner (2019)** helped as a volunteer medical care team member for medical director **Jo Feldman**, and got hooked and the rode as a participant. In 2020 he raised over \$21,000, making him 17th overall in terms of fundraising among the 3000+ participants. This year he plans to attempt to raise more than \$30,000. He is starting his training and will be posting for those that want to follow him on instagram (@the.other.doctor.mike), and for those looking to contribute to the cause and support his fundraising and Team BooBoo go to [his AIDS LifeCycle page](#).



Have you been following **Thomas Hemingway (2006)**, check out his life and [wellness podcasts](#). He has started to create a weekly newsletter, "Thursday's to Thrive."

FIND JOY THROUGH
GRATITUDE EACH
AND EVERY DAY
AND THIS WILL SERVE YOU WELL.
IT'S SIMPLE,
FREE AND POWERFUL!
THOMAS HEMINGWAY, MD

Colette Wiseman (2012) published in EM News, [Narrative Medicine: A shift](#). In addition to working as an EM provider, Colette is a certified lactation consultant who founded [Mama's Milk Works](#). You can read about her motivation for this work on The [Milky Way Blog](#).



Mary Sun (2013) is taking a sabbatical year in Canada. To obtain board certification and work in EM in Canada you must complete 5 years of training - being ABEM certified and having 8 years of practice is not enough. Thus on sabbatical Mary is doing a Wilderness Fellowship with the help of Jo Feldman. She has received her advanced wilderness life support license, taken some course and is focusing on mountain/cold weather given where she is living. She will soon do some avalanche related care training. Her husband Daniel is setting up work in virtual production, and her kids are enjoying life and school in Vancouver, BC. There is a bit more rain than in southern California but those come with more rainbows as well.



When not lecturing at ACEP, or attending in the ED former ultrasound fellow, **Kareem Agunbiade** continues his side career as a standup comic. He has been featured at comedy clubs locally and he spent a few months after fellowship this summer in France working on his mastery of French and performed at comedy shows in Europe. Follow him on instagram @aka.agunbiade to see where he will be performing next and get your tickets. He has been featured recently at several local comedy clubs in North Hollywood, including Comedy Chateau and the HaHa Club. Go see him before he becomes so famous you cannot afford to see his show. Luckily he continues to work at Olive View UCLA and contribute the medical school US curriculum at DGSOM.



Way to Go UCLA EM & Alumni



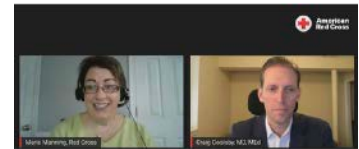
Craig Goolsby (2008) was honored with the Platinum Award for Excellence in Public Safety, American Security Today ASTORS Homeland Security Awards Program (National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health for First Aid for Severe Trauma program) for his work with the Red Cross Stop the Bleed training of high school students. In recognition of National Preparedness Month (October 2021), the American Red Cross Training Services had a [virtual session with Dr. Craig Goolsby](#), a nationally recognized severe bleeding control expert, to answer common questions about severe bleeding emergencies, provide helpful first aid tips and discuss the new Red Cross [First Aid for Severe Trauma™](#) (FAST™) course. Craig Goolsby is the Department of Defense Liaison to the Red Cross Scientific Advisory Council and the principal investigator at Uniformed Services University's National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health, who helped support the implementation of the grant for the FAST course. His work has also been highlighted in the [Military News](#).



- Excellence in Public Safety
- First Aid for Severe Trauma (FAST) High School Student Training
- Trauma is the leading cause of death for young Americans, and there have been calls to teach children about hemorrhage control however little was known about adolescents' ability to perform hemorrhage control, and the ideal way(s) to teach them.
- The origins of FAST were developed using battlefield lessons-learned, evidence-based research, and student, medical, and educational expert input, and with the experience of Dr. Craig Goolsby, Professor & Vice Chair, Dept of Military & Emergency Medicine, Science Director, NCDMPH at Uniformed Services University, who has an extensive background in emergency medicine, medical education, combat casualty care, first aid, mass casualty, and disaster medicine.

Craig is a sought after lecturer who has delivered Grand Rounds and Invited lectures around the country recently:

- "The Creation & Implementation of First Aid for Severe Trauma – a Novel, Nationwide Education Program for High Schoolers" at [Citizen CPR Summit, San Diego, CA](#);
- "Emergency Medicine Today and Tomorrow" and "Thinking Big" Grand Rounds at University of Wisconsin-Madison; WI
- "First Aid for Severe Trauma: Empowering High Schoolers to Respond to Traumatic Injuries" at HOSA Future Health Professionals Senior Advisor Leadership Conference; VA
- "Mass Shootings: Harnessing Yesterday's Lessons to Save Tomorrow's Patients" at Best Healthcare Practices during Mass Shootings Workshop, Bethesda, MD
- "Military-Civilian Medical Knowledge Sharing: Learning Together to Save Lives" Grand Rounds at University of Virginia
- "Thinking Big" Grand Rounds at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center



Andy Grock is a co-investigator on a Health Services Research and Development (HSR&D) proposal to formulate a Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) Evidence-Based Policy Center (EBPC) with collaborators at the Greater Los Angeles Veteran's Administration. He is also part of the Veteran Health Administration REBOOT Task Force Systems and Solutions work group - a VA national burnout committee.



Clayton Kazan (2005) Medical Director for the Los Angeles County Fire Department was interviewed for a [podcast for EMS World News](#) discussing a broader approach to mobile health and how his department is realizing it in Southern California.



Addressing Bias, Racism, and Disparities in the Emergency Department

By Leah Gilbert, MD, FACEP; Antony P. Hsu, MD, FACEP; Rose Diaz, MD; and Diksha Mishra, MD | on December 16, 2021

Congratulations to IDHEAL fellow **Rose Diaz** for co-authoring the [published feature in ACEP Now](#) on Addressing Bias, Racism, and Disparities in the Emergency Department.



Sarah Medeiros (2014) volunteered to provide care at the medical tent for the California International Marathon that runs in Sacramento.



More Alumni Kudos & News

Teri Miller (2020)

published an [Op-Ed in LA Times](#). As you will read, Teri's family has been living through a terrible [tragedy](#) and the related failure of our system of mental health and child protective services despite attempts by her and others. She is committed to bringing light to these issues and advocating for change. Her Op-Ed is the first step.

Los Angeles Times

Op-Ed: We desperately tried to protect three children. A broken system failed us



A spontaneous memorial altar was erected for the victims of the 1992 Los Angeles riots. Teri and Steve Berlin were found dead. Their mother is charged with murder. (L.A. Daily News)



Congratulations **Adam Evans (2018)** who joined the group at Kaiser Panorama City. He will be working along side many other UCLA alumni - **Ray Cho (2011)**, **Brandon Firestone (2017)**, **Grace de Guzman (2010)**, **Yumi Ishihara (2013)**, **Katy Kinsella (2010)**, **Eric Schallert (2017)**, and **Thomas Magner (1992)**. What a great UCLA family group!

KAISER PERMANENTE **thrive**



TALKING TESLA
PODCAST

Do you have a Tesla? Do you want a Tesla?

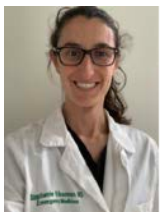
Check out the podcast Talking Tesla. **Rob Rosenbloom (2002)** and **Mel Herbert (1995)** are two of the cohosts.



Tom Lee volunteered to be part of the medical care team at the 2021 Paraclimbing World Cup.



Congratulations **Staff Brenman (2017)** and **Andie Takemoto (2018)** who both took positions at Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian. They join long time partner **John Riel (1997)**.



hoag

Howard Botwinick (1998) performs as [Dock Knowtorious](#), aka "The artist formerly know as Dr. Notorious", a singer-songwriter of blues-rock songs and a Tantra teacher among other things. Touring stopped with covid-19 but creating and performing makes him ecstatic so he hopes to delight crowds again soon.



Josh Troke (2015) continues to work as a screen writer for TV shows, check out the premier of the new medical drama he is working on ["Good Sam" on CBS](#).

Claudie Bolduc (2021) was featured on Sirius XM Doctor Radio.



DOCTOR RADIO

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

We have alumni who have moved to almost every state in the US to work. There are of course many who stay in California, and some ED groups and partnerships with a great number of individuals from our program that keep that UCLA family feeling alive. Recently spotted together on shift:



UCLA Alumni Group caught on shift together at Kaiser Baldwin Park - Kwame Donkor (2009), Kit Chang (2016), Chris Cha (2012) and newest edition Matt Levin (2021).



UCLA Alumni Ana Lopez O'Sullivan (2013), James Jiang (2019), and David Presser (2003) ringing in the 2022 New Year at Torrance Memorial.

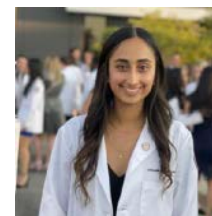


White Coat Ceremonies

One of the many bonuses and luxuries of working at RR UCLA MC and our residency program is the ability to collaborate and mentor undergraduate and post-baccalaureate pre health students. We have the long established Emergency Medicine Research Associate (EMRA) volunteer program who are essential to our research endeavors. Every year 6-8 of the volunteers take a leadership role in the program as an EMRA coordinator. In addition, every year we have been lucky to recruit one or more taking gap years after college and pre-med school to be one of our paid research staff associates. We also have exceptional scribes, those we call our CIMs (central information manager) because they are far more than scribes. Overall we are lucky to work with these smart and curious students. We want to celebrate them as the former department colleagues embark on their medical school careers this year and had their white coat ceremonies this summer. Congratulations to **Alex Kreger**, one of our CIMs, and brother of alumna **Vanessa Kreger (2020)** - he is now UCI Class of 2025. Congratulations to **Trisha Agarwal**, former EMRA volunteer & EMRA lead coordinator, who was our amazing paid staff research associate for her gap year. She was instrumental in helping onboard and enroll in several of our PETAL network studies, and many of the covid trials. She is now a class of 2025 student at University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Jonathan Hwang former EMRA research volunteer and one of our leads for the whole blood trauma study is an MS1 at University of Pittsburgh. Former EMRA member and coordinator **Itay Solomon** is an MS1 in the medical scientist training program at University of Illinois at Chicago. Former EMRA **Sarah Lee**, an EMRA coordinator and work study in our research division is class of 2025 at UCSF School of Medicine. Former EMRA Coordinator **Radha Patel** is an MS1 at Chicago Medical School Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. **Mika Sonleitner**, former EMRA, is an MS1 at University of Hawaii John A Burns School of Medicine. Three recent EMRA volunteers are now MS1s at USC Keck School of Medicine - **Erik Carillo**, **Kayla Danesh** and **Rosibel Mason**, and former EMRA Camila Reyes Martinez is an MS1 at UCSD School of Medicine.

Hopefully some of them will choose emergency medicine as a specialty. Congratulations to all of these amazing individuals!



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PUBLISHED

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