



DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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VOLUME 2, NUMBER 1

THE MISSION OF THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY IS TO PROVIDE A COLLEGIAL ENVIRONMENT FOR EDUCATION, INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND OUTSTANDING CLINICAL PROGRAMS.

Chair's Corner



Dear Colleagues,

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. Welcome to our Department of Surgery newsletter highlighting activities of our faculty, residents, and staff. As you will see our department is fortunate to have a diverse composition and extremely talented individuals. Our trainees continue to distinguish themselves academically and a summary of their scholarly activity has been provided by Gary Belcher, Program Administrator for all of our training

programs. We have highlighted two members of our department: Junji Machi, M.D. and Mrs. Karen Kurihara. Dr. Machi, a faculty member for 20 years, is an internationally recognized leader in the use of ultrasound technology and continues to be active in education and research related to this technology. Mrs. Kurihara has been with the department for 35 years, and has seen many of our faculty "grow up" in the department. Please join me in congratulating both of them on their accomplishments and their years of service.

As in our prior newsletter and in subsequent issues, we will highlight one of Dr. Parsa's paintings that are exhibited in the Department of Surgery. Dr. Parsa has selected an ocean scene and has challenged all of you to think about your impression of and the "meaning" behind this beautiful painting. If you ever visit the department please take the time to appreciate his wonderful artwork.

I would venture a guess that we are one of the few, if not the only, Department of Surgery with a faculty member who is also a Broadway Producer. Dr. Mark Mugiishi who is Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs and a longtime faculty member and alumnus of our General Surgery Training Program can now add the title of 'Producer' to his resume. He has provided a wonderful summary of the Broadway musical *Allegiance* for which he is one of the Principal Producers.

Finally, we had a successful reception at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in Chicago where many current and former trainees were able to reconnect. In addition, we had many guests join us for the fun evening at *Connie's Pizza*, a classic Chicago pizza "joint"! We hope you will all join us next year in Washington, D.C. and look forward to hearing from you throughout the year. We will continue to provide updates of exciting activities in subsequent issues of our newsletter.

Please feel free to contact me at any time at (808)586-8225 or via e-mail (kenricm@hawaii.edu)

Department of Surgery

Chair:

Kenric Murayama, M.D.

Associate Chairs:

Senior Associate Chair: Linda Wong, M.D.

Clinical Affairs: Mark Mugiishi, M.D.

Administration and Finance: Maria Chun, Ph.D.

Research: Walter Biffl, M.D.

Education: Mihae Yu, M.D.

Division Chiefs:

Anesthesia: Jason Isa, M.D.

Critical Care/Research: Mihae Yu, M.D.

General Surgery: Mark Mugiishi, M.D.

Emergency Medicine: Gregory Soares, M.D.

Neurosurgery: William Obana, M.D.

Ophthalmology: Malcolm Ing, M.D.

Orthopedics: Robert Atkinson, M.D.

Otolaryngology: Alfred Liu, M.D.

Pediatric Surgery: Walton Shim, M.D.

Plastic Surgery: F. Don Parsa, M.D.

Radiology: Michael Meagher, M.D.

Thoracic/CV: Carlos Moreno-Cabral, M.D.

Transplant: Alan Cheung, M.D.

Urology: D. Gary Lattimer, M.D.

Vascular: Elna Masuda, M.D.

New UHM Department of Surgery Web site coming soon! In the meantime, contact us at: hawaiiisurg@gmail.com

PARSA'S PAINTINGS



Paintings may or may not have a specific underlying meaning. For example, the so-called "genre painting" depicts scenes from everyday life such as fishing, school boys playing, hunters chasing their prey, a winter scene of crowds, etc. However, certain paintings do represent the artist's interpretation or impression of aspects of life as in Gauguin's painting of "Where do we come from and where we are going"; or Degas's "In a Cafe or Absinth" where two friends are sitting in a depressing and gloomy atmosphere. This painting for example shows the artist's impression of the effects of alcoholism on individuals combining the expressions on the faces with the somber background. Such paintings invite the observer to think as well as enjoy the painting from a more lively philosophical, social, and psychological perspective and therefore make the painting more "meaningful" and more interesting to observe and to enjoy. In other words, I may say that if we look closely, many paintings "speak" to us.

Please spend a few minutes studying the above ocean scene and describe your own impression of it. Remember that there is often much more to what we see in a painting and that nature is replete with inspiring messages if we take time to observe. I will explain my own interpretation underlying this work in the next newsletter. - Dr. Fereydoun Parsa

RESEARCH & ACADEMICS

Research Updates, Chad Walton, Ph.D., Director of Trauma Research

Trauma Research Support Overview

Do you have a great research idea, a mountain of data you need analyzed, trouble finding collaborators/funding, or need biostatistics support? Maybe you need help writing an IRB application or getting that manuscript written? If any of those things keep you frustrated and up late at night, fear not, you have help! Send your queries to, or stop in and chat with, Chad Walton, the Director of Trauma Research. His e-mail is cwalton@ucera.org, and his office is in the University Tower (QUT) at QMC, Room 601. His focus is primarily on statewide trauma research efforts with a particular interest in interdisciplinary, inter-institutional and translation projects, but everyone is encouraged to drop in and bounce ideas off him, or solicit support. His mantra is to engage clinicians to answer *their* questions and help *them* discover best practices to improve patient outcomes. If you have any research ideas, questions, hurdles to clear, etc., please stop by or contact Chad.

On-going trauma-related projects:

- (i) **Blood volume assessment in trauma.** We have started acquiring data and initial correlational analyses are positive. Dr. Walton presented the approach and findings during Grand Rounds on November 11.
- (ii) **Big Data analyses of biofeedback in mild TBI.** We have acquired a large set of biofeedback data from the VA study (P.I.: David Cifu, VCU) and will be using our new algorithms to facilitate various analyses of mild TBI data in collaboration with the Department of Electrical Engineering.
- (iii) **Spinal cord injuries in Hawaii '09-12.** We are turning a Department of Health report into an academic manuscript.
- (iv) **Implementation of the trauma system in Hawaii.** This is a data mining project to identify and publish the impact of the implementation of the trauma system in the State of Hawaii.
- (v) **Wound/burn study.** This is a basic research project to test the effect of anti/pro-HIF-1 alpha drug treatment and stem cell therapies on scar formation.
- (vi) **Outcomes among Level II trauma center patients.** This project is the development of a manuscript from state-wide Department of Health data.

Visit our trauma research website at <http://trauma.jabsom.hawaii.edu> for updated information on specific projects and contact information.

Research Updates continued

Other supported surgical projects:

Dr. Kyle Chun: Starting research studies on: (i) Frozen shoulder, (ii) Lateral epicondylitis, and (iii) Cuff repair pull out. We have established a working relationship with the Department of Mechanical Engineering to facilitate study design and implementation. Dr. Megan Murai: Anatomic Alignment, Strength, and Balance in youth female soccer players - case series of 129 female athletes with anatomic measurements taken and reported. Last presented at Western Orthopaedic Association as a poster. Currently editing the manuscript for submission.

Dr. Byron Izuka: Submitted a research grant to Synthes.

Dr. Cass Nakasone: Developing multiple projects based on novel orthopedic device development.

Miscellaneous

Dr. Walton has been added as an ad hoc reviewer to the Journal of Trauma and the Acute Care Surgery and is drafting a review manuscript tentatively entitled: "*Hypoxia and Trauma*". If anyone is interested in helping write/review/edit, please contact Chad.

Trauma Fund supported publications/presentations

1. David Kingdon et al. "Successful resuscitation; novel partnership between paramedics & US Coast Guard". Accepted Oct 2015 to Prehospital Emergency Care.
2. Megan Murai. Western Orthopaedic Association poster.

CONGRATULATIONS:



Congratulations to Dr. Junji Machi for 20 years of service to the department!



The Opening of Allegiance, a New American Musical by Mark Mugiishi, MD, FACS

On November 8, 2015, *Allegiance*, a New American Musical, had its official Broadway Opening at the Longacre Theater in Times Square. *Allegiance* is a musical with music and lyrics by Jay Kuo and directed by Stafford Arima. It is also a book by Lorenzo Thione, Jay Kuo and Marc Acito.

Inspired by the true life experiences of its star George Takei, *Allegiance* follows one family's extraordinary journey in this untold American story. Their loyalty was questioned, their freedom taken away, but their spirit could never be broken. It is this family's triumphant story of hope, love, and forgiveness.

What's unique about this wonderful musical is not only the soaring musical score, the touching and moving story, or the unique historical perspective; it's also that a significant portion of the capitalization from this show came from Hawaii.

Because a good friend of mine was the composer and lyricist for this show and another the lead managing partner, I became one of the principal Producers of the show.

Allegiance is the story of the Kimura family, whose lives are upended when they and 120,000 other Japanese-Americans are forced to leave their homes following the events of Pearl Harbor. Sam Kimura seeks to prove his patriotism by fighting for his country in the war, but his sister, Kei, fiercely protest the government's treatment of her people. An uplifting testament to the power of the human spirit, *Allegiance* follows the Kimuras as they fight between duty and defiance, custom and change, family bonds and forbidden loves. Legendary performer George Takei - (*Star Trek*, "*Heroes*"), who was himself an internee as a child, stars alongside Tony winner Lea Salonga - (*Miss Saigon*, *Mulan*) and up and coming star Telly Leung - (*Rent*, *Glee*).

On Opening Night, 270 of the Hawaii investor contingent (including friends and family) joined me for the landmark event. Of those, a large portion were local Hawaii physicians and part of the University of Hawaii clinical faculty. These physicians include Craig Chun, Osamu Fukuyama, Kathy Mah, Lillian Kanai, Kaye Lisehora, Kenneth Luke, Keith Matsumoto, Edison Miyawaki, Michael Nagoshi, Mari Nakashizuka, Calvin Oishi, Warren Ono, Eric Oshiro, Hideo Oshiro, Edith Pang, Robert Peterson, Mark Santi, Anthony Siu, Ken Sumida, Paul Sunahara, Amy Tamashiro, Alan Tanaka, Jay Tokeshi, Ron Wong, and Hank Wuh. In addition, some former Hawaii physicians such as Keith Korver, Roberta Lee, and Eric Matayoshi were also investors.

Allegiance had its original premier at a Regional run at San Diego's Old Globe Theater in 2012. It was picked up by the Shubert family and began its Broadway run at the "soft opening" of previews on October 6, 2015 at the Longacre theater. It will continue to run through the end of this year and will extend, audiences permitting.

<http://www.allegiancemusical.com>



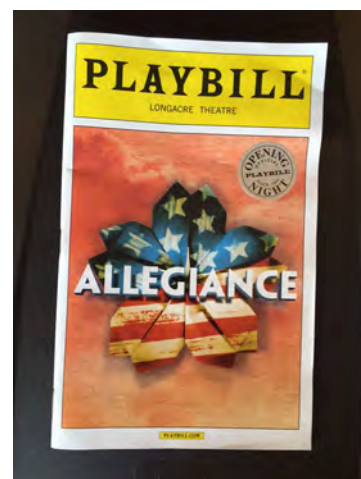
(L to R) Michael K. Lee, George Takei, and Lea Salonga



Inside of the House on Opening Night



Telly Leung and Katie Rose Clark



Opening Night Playbill



Telly Leung and Cast

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEETING:

**FOR COMPENSATED AND
NON-COMPENSATED FACULTY**

February 29, 2016 (Monday), 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., UT 618



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT CORNER

by Susan Steinemann, M.D., FACS, Director of Faculty Development

Get certified in Safety and Quality --- for free !

"Patient Safety, Performance Improvement, Quality of Healthcare" are ubiquitous topics in our surgical practice. Our residents are integrated into hospital quality programs (like NSQIP). How can YOU get up to speed on these topics, and get the training and certification that will make you knowledgeable and valuable to your institution (without taking a course at John Hopkins)? The American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians offers an on-line training and certification process...for a price: \$175 membership and \$360 course + \$750 certification exam.

An excellent alternative is **The Institute for Healthcare Improvement "Open School,"** which has a cornucopia of courses offering certification and CME. JABSOM faculty can enroll for free! Just go to ihi.org and register under your hawaii.edu account, you can pick courses a la carte, each typically provide 1-1.5 hours of CME.

UPCOMING FACULTY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Health Professions Education Conference: Sat. 2/27/16 9-5 at JABSOM

An interdisciplinary educational conference focused on the practical skills you need for superb teaching, assessment and curriculum development. A session on Scholarship in Medical Education (i.e., how to be a productive researcher in the field of education) will also be offered. Registration fee is \$45, but FREE for the first five in our department who register, courtesy of Dr. Murayama! (Let me know if you want to attend, registration officially opens in December). More details at <http://omejabsom.com/hpec2016/>

Surgical Education Week: Boston, April 12-16, 2016

One-stop shopping for the latest in educational techniques, tools and research. Details at surgicaleducation.com

What else?

Call or send me your suggestions for speakers or programs. Let me know if you or a visiting colleague would like to give a lecture or workshop.

Sue Steinemann
steine@hawaii.edu
cell: 927-0142



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Meet our very own Karen Kurihara, Administrative Assistant II, who has been a key part of our general surgery residency program for decades.

Years in the Department:

35 years (employee with the longest tenure)

Grad From:

Konawaena High School

First Job:

Working as a student assistant in the UHM Department of Surgery

Interests:

Shopping (at Macy's, craft fairs, and outlet malls) and Travelling (she's been to Japan, but would like to visit other cities there)

Fun Fact:

Her family owns K. Komo Store on the Big Island, which includes a general store, gas station, and a coffee farm. Her grandparents opened the store in 1920.

CLASS of 1979-1980



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Congratulations to Dr. Jay Marumoto for being the first to identify Drs. Peter Halford, Sherwin Ho, and Danny Takanishi, Jr. They were the very first graduates of our general surgery residency, ortho residency, and surgical critical care fellowship, respectively.



Who are these surgical pioneers above? Send your guesses to hawaiiisurg@gmail.com. The first person to provide the correct answers for all three surgeons receive a cool prize (provide their names, program they graduated from, and what they are doing now).

FUNDRAISING CORNER

Thanks to all those who generously donated during the Internal Giving Campaign! The Dean's Office is still tallying the final numbers. We'll share that with you in our next issue!

The **Whelan Fund** (acct #: 12019912) provides support for visiting professors.

The **Surgery Education Fund** (acct #: 12626404) helps to cover the cost of a variety of activities in the department, including but not limited to education, research, and administrative infrastructure.

If you'd like to make a donation online, please go to <https://giving.uhfoundation.org/give-now>
Please contact mariachu@hawaii.edu or (808)586-2925 for any questions.



RESIDENCY NEWS

By: Residency Staff

Surgery - Colin Doyle (PGY-2) was given the opportunity to attend and participate in the **SAGES Basic Laparoscopy and Endoscopy Surgery Workshop**, which took place October 22-23, 2015 at the Center for Advanced Medical Learning & Simulation (CAMLs) Lab in Tampa, Florida. Dr. Murayama offered attendance at this workshop to Colin in recognition of his outstanding 2015 ABSITE performance! Colin provided this summary of the event for both the department newsletter and as a contribution to his resident portfolio:

Approximately 30 2nd and 3rd year general surgery residents from around the country traveled to Tampa, Florida for this 2-day course. Ten SAGES members, experts in laparoscopy and advanced endoscopy, provided instruction for the course, which involved a combination of didactic sessions and hands-on learning using a variety of training modalities.

The course began with a half day of formal lectures, which covered topics including the workup and laparoscopic treatment of GERD, hiatal hernias and achalasia, endoscopic treatment of esophageal disorders, laparoscopic and endoscopic treatment of pancreatic pathology, workup and laparoscopic treatment of splenic and adrenal pathology as well as metabolic and bariatric surgery and laparoscopic inguinal and ventral hernia repair. During this time I was able to present an interesting case spanning the fields of foregut surgery and bariatrics which generated engaging discussion among the residents and attending surgeons in the audience. The day continued with mock oral boards and then an afternoon session using laparoscopic and endoscopic simulators with constructive feedback from the experts in MIS. The following day's activities consisted of a laparoscopic pig lab during which residents were able to perform a range of surgical procedures including inguinal and ventral hernia repair, small bowel resection and anastomosis, cholecystectomy, hepatic wedge resections, nephrectomy and foregut procedures, all under the guidance of the course instructors.

Not only was I able to learn a great deal from the formal lectures and practical sessions, but it was also both helpful and enjoyable to meet fellow residents from around the country and attending surgeons, well established in MIS who were all eager to share their experiences and enthusiasm for their work. I would like to thank SAGES for providing this amazing course, Dr. Cedric Lorenzo and Dr. Kenric Murayama for sponsoring my application to this organization, Karen Kurihara, Gary Belcher and Lori Bland for helping to make all the logistics of attending this course run smoothly and to Dr. Murayama the General Surgery Residency Program for making me aware of this opportunity and providing the financial support to make my attendance possible.

Christina Souther (PGY-3) presented an abstract at the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma Region 9 paper competition on Dec. 5, 2015 at the University Medical Center in Las Vegas Nevada. Christina's work is titled Delayed Respiratory Failure After Blunt Chest Trauma: Is Closer Monitoring Warranted? Winning residents will attend the Annual Meeting of the Committee on Trauma in San Diego in March 2016. Christina's participation was facilitated by Dr. Murayama and Dr. Hayashi who, in addition to his role as Associate Program Director and Queen's Medical Director of Trauma, serves as the (ACS) State of Hawaii Chair, Committee on Trauma Chair.

Orthopaedics - The 11 orthopaedic residents took the annual Orthopaedic In-Training examination on Saturday, October 14, 2015. This annual examination, known as the OITE, is a 275-questions, 7-hour long computer based examination which takes place at the JABSOM computer lab. The program has a long history of performing well on this examination, which is usually a predictor of good performance on the Part I/written certification exam. The program appreciates the generosity of DIO Dr. Naleen Andrade for providing the funding for "Saturday IT support" which can be expensive! The PGY-3 and PGY-4 residents completed an arthroscopy "boot camp" on October 23rd and 24th. This 2-day workshop/lab was spearheaded by Dr. Megan Kuba (PGY-4) and Dr. Kyle Chun (Assistant Clinical Professor). Faculty participants in addition to Dr. Chun were Program Director Robert Atkinson, Jay Marumoto, Darryl Kan, David Vasconellos, Burt Moritz and Kimo Harpstrite. This excellent lab, which was conducted at the Hale Pawa Pacific Forum Lab, emphasized the acquisition of arthroscopy skills for shoulder and knee procedures. Thanks to the John Smith/DePuy-Synthes Fund at Queen's, residents and faculty have online access to the Wolters Kluwer LWW Orthopaedic Health Library. This online portal (accessible through New Innovations) contains access to over 35 major textbooks and dozens of educational videos (operations, procedures and exposures) in all the domains of Orthopaedic surgery.

Surgical Critical Care - All three Critical Care Fellows have had their abstracts accepted to the 45th Critical Care Congress which will take place February 20-24, 2016 in Orlando, Florida. The abstract titles are as follows: A tissue perfusion measurement in critically-ill

Residency News continued

patients as a predictor of mortality, Kiersten Norby; Pulmonary artery occlusion pressure is a poor predictor of circulating blood volume, Timothy Perkins; and Perfusion index and mortality in the critically ill, Laura Spector. All three fellows will participate in the 2-day, Live Critical Care Ultrasound course which precedes the SCCM Congress. This training allows the fellows to obtain the realistic training needed to perform and interpret ultrasound imaging. The fellows will benefit from guided, focused skill stations, featuring live models and interactive presentations to reinforce key learning points.



C. Doyle, UHSRP,
PGY-2



T. Perkins,
SCC Fellow



K. Norby,
SCC Fellow



L. Spector,
SCC Fellow



M. Kuba, UHORP,
PGY-4



Orthopaedic Residents 2015-16

Front Row (L-R): John Attenello, Eddie Chan (Chief), Megan Kuba, Chris Lau, R. Alex Sweet; Back Row (L-R): Robert Atkinson (PD), John Dupaix, Jae You, Maria Opanova, Nick Foeger, Nick Scarcella (Chief), Anne Wright

**UHM DEPT. OF SURGERY RECEPTION AT THE ACS CLINICAL CONGRESS IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
ON OCTOBER 6, 2015 - HOSTED BY DR. & MRS. MURAYAMA**



Associate Program Directors, Drs. Mike Hayashi and David Inouye catch up with former residents



Drs. Chayanin Musikasinthorn, Justin Clark, David Inouye, and Chett Hamill



Dr. Walter Biffl, Dr. Susan Steinemann and Dr. & Mrs. Whitney Limm



R-L: Ivan Matsunaga (managing partner of Connie's and from Hawaii), Vi and Michael Matsumoto, Norma Murayama, Whitney and Harvalee Limm



Dr. Ermine Van Dyken, her husband, and Co-host Norma Murayama



Guests enjoying each other's company and the delicious food.