Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to our Spring 2019 newsletter. One of my goals has been to create a sense of “family” in the department…every family is made up of generations and senior members are often role models for the younger family members. Our department is no different. We are fortunate to have amazing faculty in the department and are blessed to have senior faculty who demonstrate how they Live Surgery on a regular basis.

If you visit the department, you will see that the FIRST graduate of the surgery residency was Dr. Peter Halford. After many years as an outstanding physician and surgeon and a mentor to so many who followed in his footsteps, but could never fill his shoes, Dr. Halford is retiring to spend more time with his lovely wife, Diane, and his children. Dr. Halford has been one of my mentors and has been an incredible role model for so many of us. He showed us how to be an outstanding surgeon…skilled, intelligent, and compassionate while maintaining a healthy dose of humor. He laughed when I called him my “moral compass” in surgery, but he leads by example; he has always done it the right way, for the right reasons, every time!

Dr. Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee has been a long time member and strong supporter of the department and was honored at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in Boston as the recipient of the Dr. Mary Walker Edwards Inspiring Women in Surgery Award. Her career accomplishments after graduating from Harvard Medical School are humbling for us all and I encourage you to visit the link provided to learn more about Dr. Lee’s amazing contributions to surgery. Dr. Lee is a true “gem.” Please join me in thanking Dr. Lee when you see her at one of our department activities.

One of the most rewarding parts of being part of a family is watching young people grow; in surgery, it is the joy of seeing young trainees develop into excellent surgeons. It does truly require a village to help our residents and students develop into the next generation of providers of surgery, not just technicians, but leaders of a growing, rapidly evolving medical community. We have instituted a number of new programs this year to better prepare our trainees for the next phase of their careers. Our research curriculum continues to mature under the leadership of Dr. Russell Woo and several of our residents and students are presenting work at meetings this year. This year we were fortunate to have a new quarterly Business of Healthcare series led by one of our former graduates, Dr. Mark Mugiishi. Finally, we are beginning a new Surgical Leadership Forum for our senior residents. For too long we have assumed surgeons are all natural-born leaders, but it is our responsibility to provide our residents with the fundamentals to be leaders. We need to ensure that we are developing the next Dr. Halford and Dr. Lee!

Thank you all for your continued support and remember, “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

John Quincy Adams

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

Check out our web site: http://surgery.jabsom.hawaii.edu You can also contact us at: hawaiisurg@gmail.com
PARSA'S PAINTINGS

By: F. Don Parsa, M.D., FACS

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, etc. However, certain paintings do represent the artist’s interpretation or impression of aspects of life/meaning of life as in Gauguin’s painting of Where Do We Come From and Where We Are Going; or Degas’s In a Café or L’Absinthe 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 as shown on this page 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 and invite us to further our understanding of life and the people around us. We may be encouraged to learn more about L’Absinthe’s history and its effects on the individual. We may also become interested about the painter’s life, Degas in this instance, and read the famous French novelist’s masterpiece L’Assomoir (The Dram Shop) on which the painting is based on and vividly describes one aspect of the Parisian society of the industrialized 19th century. In a Café was painted in 1875–76, and portrays a woman and a man sitting side-by-side, drinking a glass of absinthe. They appear lethargic and lonely. The man, wearing a hat, looks to the right of the edge of the canvas, while the woman, dressed more formally in fashionable dress and hat, stares vacantly downward. A glass filled with absinthe is on the table in front of her. The café where they are taking their refreshment is called Café de la Nouvelle-Athènes and is still located in Place Pigalle in Paris. Please spend a few minutes studying one of my paintings as shown on this page Surgeons at Work and think of your own impression of it and what it represents to you. It shows a surgical scene and was painted to convey a message to the young surgeons. You may also wish to contrast the mood presented in this painting with the In a Café. I will describe my own interpretation of this work in the next newsletter. In the meantime please feel free to contact me if you have any question or like to comment (fdparsa@gmail.com).
Halfway through the academic year 2018-2019, faculty, residents, and students in the UHM Department of Surgery continue to advance the science and practice of surgery. In the last six months, members of the department have authored multiple manuscripts in peer reviewed journals and presented at regional, national and international conferences.

In support of these efforts, the department has continued its monthly research meetings. This remains a forum where surgeons can share and discuss research ideas and foster collaboration. In January, we were privileged to have Dr. Kasper Wang as a visiting professor from the University of Southern California and the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. He attended our research meeting and provided valuable feedback to residents preparing for national presentations. This Spring, we begin a series of interdepartmental mixers designed to foster collaboration between members of our department and other departments across the University of Hawai‘i. In February, we hosted faculty from the College of Engineering. Later in the year, we have proposed mixers with the School of Public Health as well as the Biostatistics and Quantitative Health Sciences group.

We are also midway through our first year of the Surgery Resident Research Curriculum and Requirement. Multiple faculty across UHM have delivered fundamental lectures aimed at providing core education in hypothesis driven biomedical research. The curriculum has received excellent verbal reviews to date and will continue to expand.

The research curriculum schedule can be found at: https://hawaiiresidency.org/general-surgery-residency/research-curriculum

Lastly, we are preparing to host several key research focused events in 2020. In the Spring 2020, we will host a Fundamentals of Surgical Research course in conjunction with the Association for Academic Surgery. In the Fall, we will host the 5th Annual Society of Asian Academic Surgeons (SAAS) Meeting. These are in addition to multiple national conferences that members of our department already host on an annual basis.

We thank members of the department for their continued commitment to advancing surgery. We invite all members of the department to attend both the monthly research meetings as well as the research curriculum lectures. Please contact Lisa Lucas at surgexec@hawaii.edu for more information.
Research Update: SmarTummy: A Dynamic Abdominal Disease Simulator

By: Walton Shim, M.D., FACS, FAAP

There is an established need for more realistic manikins for physical diagnosis training. Factors such as learner access to real patients diagnosed with a specific disease, patient privacy regulations, and patient safety expectations requesting trainees and neophyte doctors to gain as much experience as possible all can be addressed with SmarTummy, a dynamic abdominal disease simulator. Under the auspices of a joint course (SURG 545U/ME645) taught by faculty from the UHM Department of Surgery and the UHM College of Mechanical Engineering, a team of graduate engineering students developed this conceptual programmable abdominal simulation manikin. For this invention, in 2013, a First Prize Award of $17,500 was granted by the Pacific and Asian Center for Entrepreneurship (PACE), UHM Shidler Business College. A year later, a Third Place Award of $10,000 from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) was received. SmarTummy reached the finals in the 2014 California Dreamin’ Contest of Chapman University.

SmarTummy is a conceptual manikin that can be programmed to simulate a number of disease states commonly found in the human abdomen such as acute appendicitis, cholecystitis, distended bladder, peritonitis, and ileus. Unlike traditional manikins that are made of hard cold plastic, SmarTummy will closely approximate the living human abdominal wall in compressibility, warmth and texture of human skin. SmarTummy will have the capability of demonstrating a set of pre-programmed disease states controlled by a graphic user interface (GUI).

The availability of the technical means to achieve these ends is present. Actuators, materiel, and GUI capability are available. We are engaged with a manufacturing company in Warren, New Jersey to produce a prototype. We are also actively collaborating with Dr. Ben Berg and the Sim Tiki Laboratory of JABSOM in verification efforts for the new manikin and for planning a physical diagnosis curriculum.
6th CROSS-CULTURAL HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE (CCHC 2019)

By: Maria B.J. Chun, Ph.D.

The sixth Cross-Cultural Health Care Conference was held on January 25-26, 2019 at the Ala Moana Hotel. Approximately 150 local, national, and international attendees enjoyed over 40 oral and poster presenters who shared their expertise on multiple aspects of culture in healthcare (e.g., race/ethnicity, religion, gender, socio-economic status). Highlights included plenary sessions from Dr. David Acosta, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) who spoke on Addressing Diversity in Medical Education; Robert T. Wong Lecturer Dr. Russell Berman, Associate Chair for Surgical Education and Faculty Development and Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Program at New York University, who shared his expertise on Addressing Diversity in Graduate Medical Education: Teaching Residents Professionalism and Interpersonal Communication Skills; and Whelan Visiting Professor Dr. Douglas Smink, Associate Chair of Education and Program Director for the General Surgery Residency Program at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, whose presentation was on The Role of Culture in Non-Technical Skills Training.

To the delight of the many repeat attendees, there were the always highly rated “repeat presenters” who provided updates of their work. Dr. Keawe Kaholokula, Chair of the UHM Department of Native Hawaiian Health, once again shared the many exciting culturally-related research initiatives by his department’s faculty and the partnerships they have with the community. A panel of Deans from Medicine (Dr. Alan Otsuki who represented Dr. Jerris Hedges), Nursing (Dr. Mary Boland), Public Health (Dr. Kathryn Braun), Pharmacy (Dr. Carolyn Ma) and Social Work (Dr. Noreen Mokuau) provided updates on various collaborative projects done in partnership with their respective schools/programs (e.g., RMATRIX, Ola Hawaii, Hawaii Homeless Outreach and Medical Education). Dr. Joseph Betancourt, who is the Director of the Disparities Solution Center and an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard University, has spoken at all six conferences and closed the conference by informing the audience on The State of Cross-Cultural Health Care in 2019, sharing his over 20 years in the field.

This conference ends its current series and refreshes with a new perspective with plans to partner with other organizations who hold similar interests. The conference planning committee, led by Dr. Murayama, is in discussions with the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons regarding a potential partnership for their September 2020 meeting, which will take place on Oahu. We hope this will encourage more of our UHM Department of Surgery faculty to share their culturally-related research. In addition to serving as general session speakers, two of our faculty have submitted abstracts to present – in 2017, Dr. Scott Harvey (Racial-Ethnic Disparities in Post-Partum Hemorrhage in Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Asians) and in 2019 Dr. Kanu Okike (Orthopaedic Faculty and Resident Gender Diversity: Does it Influence Female Medical Student Interest in Orthopaedics?).

For more info, please visit: http://cchc-conference.jabsom.hawaii.edu/

Dr. Danny Takanishi, Jr. moderating a discussion with Drs. Acosta and Berman.

Dr. Smink discussing his research on non-technical skills and cultural dexterity.

CCHC Facts

The inaugural conference was held in October 2010 utilizing seed money provided by former Chair Dr. Danny Takanishi, Jr. Since that time, the conference has been self-sustaining through registration and exhibitor fees, grants, and donations. In addition to utilizing these funds to cover expenses, the conference has been able to provide over 200 free conference registrations for undergraduate and graduate students, medical students, and residents/fellows. Conference attendance has grown from 95 at the first conference to an average of 150 to 160, with peak attendance of 244 in 2015. For close to a decade the conference has:

- provided an overview of critical issues facing healthcare professionals who care for diverse patient populations;
- served as a forum to discuss the “evidence base” regarding cross-cultural health care training and treatment interventions;
- fostered interprofessional collaboration (e.g. medicine, psychology, public health, social work, nursing, and Hawaiian studies). At the most recent conference in 2019, we invited pharmacy; and
- welcomed attendees from 28 U.S. Mainland states (AL, AZ, CA, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, WA, WI) and 11 countries (Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, and the UK).

Dr. Kaholokula presenting on the benefits of incorporating cultural practices, such as hula, into healthcare interventions.

Dr. Murayama taking questions from the audience.

One of our faculty, Dr. Okike, presenting his study results on the impact of gender in pursuing a career in orthopaedics.

Perennial speaker, Dr. Betancourt, wraps up the conference and series by discussing the State of Cross Cultural Health Care in 2019.
FUNDRAISING CORNER
By: Larry Burgess, M.D.

The 2018 JABSOM Internal Giving Campaign concluded in November 2018. The program was highly successful again, raising $669,149 for 94 different accounts. Surgery faculty and staff donated over $25,950 to department-related funds. The Whelan Endowed Chair in Surgery Fund continues to grow as a result of the annual dinner. For next year, areas to consider are giving by recurring payroll or credit card, since it increases your gift with the recurring gift match. Only a small amount of monthly giving can result in a match of $50 to $100. Surgery just missed the ‘Ohana match this year, as other departments had qualifying JABSOM participation within the first week of the campaign.

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*Kick-off match is for gifts received by 10/26/2018

**Recurring match is for those giving by monthly credit card or payroll deduction

***Burgess ‘Ohana match is for Departments and units who reach 100% participation with 19 or less on JABSOM roster, or 20 participants as a minimum for larger departments. Funds will be prioritized to those giving within the first week of the program.
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Dr. Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee for being presented the Dr. Mary Edwards Walker Inspiring Women in Surgery Award from the American College of Surgeons.

For more information about Dr. Lee and the Dr. Mary Edwards Walker award please see article on the American College of Surgeons website at:

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Lisa Lucas, the Department's Executive Assistant

Years in the Department: A little over one year. I started in mid-October 2018.

Grad From: Iolani

First Job: Zippy's - counter/cashier in high school.

Interests: Read, cook, bake, spend time with family and my four legged fur baby, Max.

Fun Fact: I LOVE a good murder mystery. :)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FACULTY MEETING - March 27, 2019, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Queen's University Tower, Room 618
FOR COMPENSATED AND NON-COMPENSATED FACULTY

RESEARCH MEETING - March 20, 2019, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Queen's University Tower, Room 618
RESIDENCY PROGRAMS
By: Residency Staff

Surgical and Orthopaedic Residency

Resident Recruitment: General Surgery and Orthopaedics

On January 19, 2019 the third of three applicant interview sessions for the surgical residency program were held. The others were on December 15 and January 12. All three sessions were preceded by a recruitment/social event, which took place the night before at Dr. and Mrs. Murayama’s family home. In attendance were faculty interviewers, our residents, and the applicants. A super fun time was enjoyed on all three nights! The program believes the applicants do better with the interview process, having met the residents and faculty the day prior. And, the applicants are highly appreciative that Dr. Murayama conducts this event at his home, under the supervision of Norma Murayama!

To give context to the application process, we had 693 applicants to the program, which was narrowed down to approximately 80. From that list, 48 applicants were invited to interview for our four PGY-1 categorical positions. Following the interviews and subsequent data compilation, the resident selection group manufactured a Rank Order List (ROL), ranking each applicant from 1 through 48. In mid-March, the National Residency Matching Program MATCH will take place. This is comprised of a computer algorithm that matches applicants’ sought-after training programs with those programs’ sought-after applicants (utilizing the applicant’s ROL and the Programs’ ROLs). Hundreds of faculty and staff hours are put into this process in an effort to bring residents into the program who will flourish and thrive!

The orthopaedic residency program’s recruitment process is very similar with an interview session that took place on January 5. Faculty, residents, and applicants gathered on the 6th floor of UH Tower for a program presentation by Dr. Atkinson, interviews of the applicants, lunch, a tour of The Queen’s Medical Center and an afternoon social gathering at Duke’s in Waikiki. The orthopaedic residency program had a total of 417 applicants and interviewed 15 of those for two categorical positions. Again, tons of work, but worth it considering the importance of bringing the best residents into the program. For information about how the Matching algorithm works go to http://www.nrmp.org/matching-algorithm/ and play the video clip.

Resident Scholarly Activities and Accreditation

The surgical residents have been very productive from the Scholarly Activity perspective. The residency governing/accrediting body for all residency programs [aka the ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education)] requires all programs to report resident scholarly activity on an annual basis. This list of endeavors is one of the metrics the ACGME (specifically the Surgery Residency Review Committee or RRC) uses to determine whether or not a program is meeting accreditation requirements. Annually, numerous documents and metrics are reviewed, including but not limited to, the following: anonymous resident and faculty surveys, which are individual reports of program “behavior” provided to the ACGME by residents and faculty; American Board of Surgery Qualifying and Certifying examination pass rates; resident/faculty scholarly activity; resident Milestones reports; the following: anonymous resident and faculty surveys, which are individual reports of program “behavior” provided to the ACGME by residents and faculty; American Board of Surgery Qualifying and Certifying examination pass rates; resident/faculty scholarly activity; resident Milestones reports; response to citations; a detailed list of changes to the program; block diagrams representing the resident rotation schedule at each year of training, and case log reports. The Surgical Critical Care Fellowship and the Orthopaedic Residency programs go through the same steps, every year, to remain in good stead with the ACGME (accredited). Here are examples of our programs’ scholarly activities (previous and forthcoming):

- The American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress. Boston, 10/21-25, 2018. Bouveret’s Syndrome Presenting as Upper Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage Managed with Endoscopic Techniques (VIDEO). Kliment Bozhilov MD (R2) and Carl Tadaki, MD, FACS
- Region IX ACS Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition. 12/1, 2018, Stanford University. Dedicated Trauma Case Managers - An Important Part of the Trauma Team? M. Krishna Rao, MD (R4), Dr. Frank Zhao, Dr. Michael Hayashi, Ms. Kelly Vide, Ms. Karen Ng, Mr. Richard Severino
- The Pacific Coast Surgical Association 90th Annual Meeting. 1/15-18, 2019, Tucson. Outcome in Liver Resection, Some Gray Hair in your Surgeon might be a Good Thing. M. Krishna Rao, MD (R4)
- 2019 American Venous Forum Annual Meeting. 2/19-22, 2019 Rancho Mirage. Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) for Venous Care, The New AVF Multi-Society Project - Data Collection and Analysis. John Vossler, MD (R4) and Vein Surgery Practice Patterns Differ Between Vascular Surgeons and Other Physicians. John Vossler, MD (R4) and Elna Masuda, MD.
- The Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract 60th Annual Meeting. San Diego, 5/18-21, 2019. Robotic Colectomy Outcomes Have Improved Over Time: An ACS NSQIP Database Analysis. John Vossler, MD (R4), M. Krishna Rao, MD (R4), Chad Cryer, MD, Dean Mikami, MD, FACS, Kenric Murayama, MD, FACS
The orthopaedic residents are preparing for their podium presentations at the Hawaii Orthopaedic Association 34th Annual Combined Symposium. This two-day meeting takes place April 12th and 13th at the Hale Koa Hotel. Residents from UH and Tripler compete for the Richardson Awards which are 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for the best resident papers. Faculty from both institutions and community orthopedists also present and include visiting professors as well as panels and debates (CME Event). The 2019 Hawaii Orthopedic Association (HOA) Symposium President, who organizes and oversees the symposium, is Paul Ryan, MD, Program Director of the Tripler Orthopaedic Residency Program. Here are our resident submissions (which are of course submitted to the ACGME/RRC as evidence of scholarly activity):

- **Gordon Lee, MD (R3)** - Patient Reported Return to Driving Following Outpatient Total Hip Arthroplasty.
- **Anne Wright, MD (R3)** - The Effect of Fluoroscopy Beam Position on Perceived Acetabular Component Abduction and Anteversion Angles in Direct Anterior Total Hip Arthroplasty.
- **Ian Hasegawa, MD (Research Fellow)** - Direct Anterior Approach Hemiarthroplasty with the Hana Table.
- **Nick Foeger, MD (Chief Resident)** - Use of Chlorohexidine Sponge Reduces Skin Soil Contamination.
- **Jae You, MD (Chief Resident)** - “You’re OK Anesthesia”: Closed Reduction of Pediatric Distal Forearm Fractures in the Outpatient Setting without Anesthesia.
Surgical Critical Care Fellowship training and scholarly activities

As this is being written the Surgical Critical Care fellows are participating in a two-day live ultrasound course at the Society for Critical Care Medicine Annual Meeting. [The Live Ultrasound Course costs $1,500 per Fellow and is funded by the Program through HRP, Inc. (as is travel to the Congress and lodging)]. In addition, over the next few days, the fellows (Anand Patel, MD, Jae Won Lee, MD and Fariha Sheikh, MD) will present their research at the 48th Critical Care Congress at the San Diego Convention Center. The titles of their presentations are:

- Peripheral Blood Hematocrit is an Inaccurate Index of Red Cell Volume in Critically Ill Subjects. Jae Won Lee, MD
- Reducing Blood Sampling for Circulating Blood Volume Determination: A Pilot Feasibility Analysis. Fariha Sheikh, MD

Residency Program Staff Recognition

Jamie Castelo, Orthopaedics Residency Coordinator gave birth to son Quincy Jerome on August 15, 2018! Baby-Quincy weighed in at a respectable 7 pounds, 13 ounces and he was 20 inches in length. At his six-month weigh-in he had beefed up to 13 pounds 10 ounces and 26 inches tall!

On December 7, 2018 the Hawaii Residency programs, Inc. (aka HRP – the employer of residents and residency program administrative staff) conducted their annual holiday party. The following Service Award was issued to Department of Surgery residency program staff: Naomi Gagabi, Surgical Residency Administrative Assistant (five years of service).
The Department of Surgery held a cocktail reception at The Barking Crab in Boston, MA on October 22, 2018 in conjunction with the American College of Surgeons annual meeting. Here are some photos from the event:

Mr. Garret Kawamura, UHM Dept of Surgery Business Director, and Dr. Takanishi

Dr. Murayama and guests

Former and current general surgery residents reconnect.

Dr. Michael Hayashi and Dr. Brett Matthews, comparing hairstyles.

Mr. Kawamura, Dr. Nancy Furumoto and Guest

The start of the festivities.

Faculty, residents, and guests having a great time!

Please send your story ideas to Mike Yamashita at: my7@hawaii.edu