



# DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

## UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

MAY 2016

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 2

*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,

Welcome to the Spring 2016 edition of the Department of Surgery newsletter. It is an exciting time of year with the news of who our next group of trainees will be, where our current trainees are headed, and what new additions we plan for the department. We had a successful internal giving campaign and have exceeded our goal! I thank all of you who generously contributed. As in previous newsletters, we have highlighted one of our longtime department

staff members, Mike Yamashita, and one of Dr. Parsa's wonderful paintings that adorns the department.

Included in the newsletter are photos and brief bios for the incoming General Surgery and Orthopedic Surgery residents and the Surgical Critical Care fellows. They are an outstanding and accomplished group of trainees and I encourage you to welcome them. I would also like to mention the addition of core faculty who will work with me to add to the educational offerings of the department. In October 2015, Dr. Walt Biffl joined the department as Associate Chair for Research and the Queen's Medical Center as Director of Acute Care Surgery. Dr. Biffl is a recognized expert in Trauma and Acute Care Surgery and has over 250 peer-reviewed publications. Through our ongoing partnership with the Queen's Medical Center, we have recruited a nationally recognized leader in surgery, Dr. Dean Mikami. Dr. Mikami has been on the faculty at The Ohio State University and he will be joining us on July 1<sup>st</sup> as Chief of the Division of General Surgery. He is an expert in minimally invasive surgery and therapeutic endoscopy and will be tasked with development of several clinical programs in the department and at the Queen's Medical Center. Through our partnership with Queen's we are also adding another Trauma and Acute Surgeon to our faculty in the near future. We have been working with the Kuakini Health System and through this partnership will be recruiting two new faculty members to the department in the next few months.

Finally, on August 20, 2016, we will be celebrating Dr. Thomas Whelan who served as Chair of the Department of Surgery for many years. Many of the surgeons in our community were trained under Dr. Whelan and have wonderful memories of their time with him. This should be a wonderful evening reconnecting with colleagues and friends and I do hope you will be able to join us. In closing, it has been an exciting and challenging first year for me as Chair and I want to express my appreciation to the staff in the Department of Surgery, the Hawaii Residency Program staff, and to all of you for your support. I am glad to be "home in the islands"!!

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

Check out our NEW web site: <http://surgery.jabsom.hawaii.edu> You can also contact us at: [hawaiiisurg@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiiisurg@gmail.com)

## PARSA'S PAINTINGS



As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, a painting may or may not have a specific underlying or symbolic “meaning” without however being meaningless. For example, a painting depicting hunters chasing their prey, or a painting that shows a commonplace object such as flowers, plants, books, vases and so on, have their “meanings” as photographs do. The slogan “art for art’s sake” taken from the French “l’art pour l’art” was invented to denote paintings that serve no political, religious, or social purposes. Many artists misunderstand this concept and paint not-so-interesting or not-so-beautiful and flatly meaningless “creations,” the examples of which we find in most “modern art” museums.

The painting shown here may be viewed simply as an ocean scene with tropical fish i.e., a simple “genre” painting. However, I have tried to convey the following personal “impressions.” For the

well-known impressionist Claude Monet, an impression is the depiction of one’s feelings and experiences of a particular theme, often in a symbolic manner. The following “impressions” related to the above painting are specific surgical experiences depicted by symbolic ocean elements and may be “felt” or “seen” in the following manner. I must also add that the central theme of all my paintings exhibited on the walls at the Department of Surgery on the 6th floor of the University Tower is “Beauty of Surgery.”

1. Surgery is as beautiful as the waters surrounding Hawaiian islands are beautiful.
2. Surgery brings peace and calm to the spirit, as does admiring the vast ocean with its peaceful and calm immensity.
3. The life of a surgeon is similar to a large and well-balanced wave that is always tirelessly on the move. The large wave occupying the center of the canvas is the symbol of an ideal surgeon: dynamic and tireless.
4. There is also a not-so-obvious but profound beauty in the ocean that the casual observer will miss: the colorful tropical fish and coral are viewed as the “details” of the ocean and symbolize important vital details in surgery that surgeons appreciate as a diver appreciates the magic of deep-sea landscapes.

-Dr. Fereydon Don Parsa, MD, FACS

## RESEARCH & ACADEMICS

### *Research Updates, Walter L. Biffi, M.D., Associate Chair for Research*

We have many opportunities for surgical research. Abundant databases and enthusiastic collaborators offer something for anybody interested in participating in research. There are currently many projects in development or underway- and the potential for additional projects is limited only by your imagination!

#### **Trauma Research**

We are very fortunate to have Dr. Chad Walton, on site as our Director of Trauma Research. His focus is primarily on statewide trauma research efforts with a particular interest in interdisciplinary, inter-institutional and translation projects- but his expertise and connections go way beyond! He organizes the Hawaii Trauma Advisory Council (HTAC) Research SubCouncil. Current projects include:

- Blood volume assessment in Trauma
- Big Data analyses of biofeedback in mTBI
- Spinal Cord Injuries in Hawaii '09-12
- Implementation of the Trauma System in Hawaii
- KMCWC TBI guidelines
- Outcomes among Level III trauma center patients
- Impact of Simulation-based Pediatric Trauma Team Training
- Interfacility transfer guidelines/checklist

The HTAC Research Subcouncil meets monthly on the fourth Thursday. Contact Chad for dates/times, and access to the webconference.

The QMC trauma research meetings are held on the third Monday of each month. Contact Dr. Mike Hayashi or Ms. Karen Ng to add topics for discussion to the agenda. Visit the trauma research website at <http://trauma.jabsom.hawaii.edu> for updated information on specific projects and contact information.

The SICU also holds monthly research meetings, on the fourth Monday. Contact Dr. Mihae Yu or Dr. Dave Inouye to bring topics.

## ***Research Updates continued***

### **Quality Research**

We have access to National Surgical Quality Improvement Project (NSQIP) and Trauma Quality Improvement Project (TQIP) databases, so the sky's the limit with quality and outcome studies. Dr. Kathy Mah and Dr. Steve Nishida are currently working on projects related to implementing ERAS protocol and reducing surgical site infections after colon surgery. Contact me or Dr. Mah if you're interested in surgical quality studies.

### **Orthopedic Research**

For those interested in research in Orthopedic Surgery, Drs. Kyle Chun, Byron Izuka, and Cass Nakasone all have projects underway or in development. Contact them for more information.

### **Kudos**

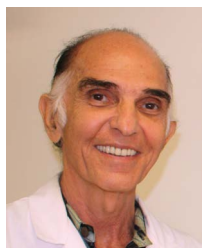
Congratulations to Dr. Christina Souther for presenting 2 posters at the 68th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Surgical Congress in Coronado, CA. The titles were:

*Delayed respiratory failure after blunt chest trauma: Is closer monitoring warranted?*

*Untreated peritoneal tuberculosis re-presenting 17 years later as suspected metastatic disease*

Please contact me if you are interested in participating in research or if you have a project you want to highlight/advertise. Also, let me know of publications and presentations so they can be featured here.

## **FEATURED FACULTY PUBLICATIONS:**



Parsa FD, Castel N, Parsa NN. A Modified, Direct Neck Lift Technique: The Cervical Wave-Plasty. *Arch Plast Surg*. 2016;43(2):181-188. doi:10.5999/aps.2016.43.2.181.

Stephan BC, Parsa FD. Avoiding Opioids and Their Harmful Side Effects in the Postoperative Patient: Exogenous Opioids, Endogenous Endorphins, Wellness, Mood, and Their Relation to Postoperative Pain. *Hawai'i Journal of Medicine & Public Health*. 2016;75(2):63-67.

## **CONGRATULATIONS:**



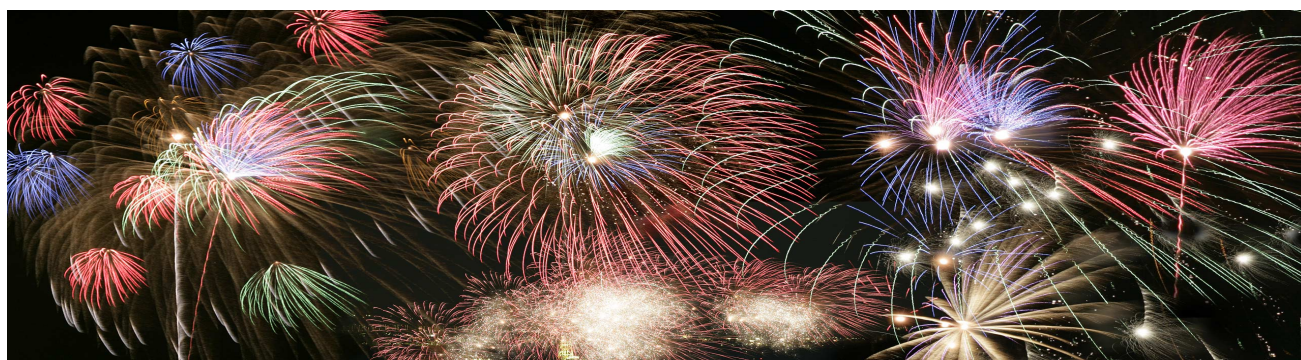
Dr. Maria B.J. Chun  
Specialist  
for 10 years of service on 4/13/16.



Dr. Jeffery Kimo Harpstrite  
Assistant Professor  
for 10 years of service on 9/6/15.



Dr. Susan J. Steinemann  
Associate Professor  
for 15 years of service on 5/16/15.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEETING:

August 1, 2016, 5-6 pm, UT 618

### WHELAN GALA:

August 20, 2016, Sheraton

Honoring Thomas J. Whelan Jr., MD, and establishing a new fund that will help support, reward, and retain talented faculty and provide resources to enhance the research, education, and clinical missions of JABSOM.

For more info on how to donate (account # 127-3590-4 Whelan Gala), please contact Maria at [mariachu@hawaii.edu](mailto:mariachu@hawaii.edu) or make your donation online at [uhfoundation.org/give/ways-to-give](http://uhfoundation.org/give/ways-to-give)

### CROSS-CULTURAL HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE:

February 17-18, 2017, Ala Moana Hotel

Register: [cchc-conference.com](http://cchc-conference.com)

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!



## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PANTRY

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

### Carrots & Sticks

As you all (hopefully) are aware, our department requires two hours per year of "Faculty Development" activity specific to maintaining or improving your knowledge and skills as an educator, researcher, or academic leader. For you regular (compensated) faculty this should be documented in your JABSOM annual report under "V. Professional Growth / Recognition." That's the "stick"...really more like a twig....

The "carrot" is that you will be able to meet this requirement simply by attending fabulous Department of Surgery Faculty Development Grand Rounds. Renowned leaders in the field of surgical education will be coming from afar to spread their wisdom, and learn about your successes (and challenges). Look for these specially designated Grand Rounds in your email inbox or flyer posted in the elevator or in the department.

## UPCOMING FACULTY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Peter Angelos, MD, FACS – May 4

Dr. Angelos, a leader in surgical ethics and education, will be our next Visiting Professor, giving Grand Rounds on May 4. He is the Linda Kohler Anderson Professor of Surgery and Surgical Ethics; Chief of Endocrine Surgery; and Associate Director of the MacLean Center for Surgical Ethics at the University of Chicago.

### JABSOM Promotion & Tenure Dossier Preparation Mentoring Program

Weekly summer series for faculty applying for promotion in 2017

June – July 2016 (weekly)

Exact Dates TBD

For more information, see Lori Emery, M.Ed, Faculty Development Program Manager

[lmatsuza@hawaii.edu](mailto:lmatsuza@hawaii.edu)

Ph: (808) 692-0884

<http://jabsom.hawaii.edu/faculty/facdev/>



## UPCOMING FACULTY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

### **SimTiki SimBites Simulation Faculty Development Luncheon**

A quarterly ongoing faculty development session designed for OME/SimTiki Facilitators and Course Directors. This course is designated for 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits TM.

This open house is designed to enhance learning and conversation regarding the main topic areas for simulation-based instruction.

**Who's invited:** All instructors, faculty and course directors, as well as those interested in learning more about simulation in medical education.

**Agenda:** Lunch, Presentation(s) highlighting simulation, recent research, Hands-on opportunities.

SimTiki Simulation Center

651 Ilalo Street, Honolulu, HI

JABSOM MEB 2nd floor Simroom 3 (room 210)

### **Upcoming SimBites Dates:**

Friday May 6, 2016 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Hot Topics for this session:

- Hands-on Demo: Just in Time Training Curriculum & Research
- SimTiki Research Abstracts

Sept 16, 2016 - Sim Center's Sharing/Networking Day

Dec 16, 2016

RSVP is requested but not required to: [help@simtiki.org](mailto:help@simtiki.org)

### **American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress Washington D.C. – Oct 16-20**

You all know the College is a cornucopia of great education. One great course not to be missed is the annual “Surgical Education: Principles and Practice” (Didactic Experiential Course #6). It is the condensed version of the iconic “Surgeons as Educators” course.

There's so much at the College it is easy to miss some great faculty development offerings. Consider looking for these by searching particular tracks:

Education / Outcomes and Safety (EDU)

Residents and Medical Students (RES / MED)

More info available now and in the coming months:

<https://www.facs.org/clincon2016>

### **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](mailto:steine@hawaii.edu)

cell: (808) 927-0142



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Meet our very own Mike Yamashita, Fiscal Administrator, who provides support services in finance, personnel and other areas to the department.

**Years in the Department:**

Mike started in the department as a UCERA employee in January 2007 and switched to being a UH employee in July 2008.

**Grad From:**

High School: El Cerrito High School in El Cerrito, CA.

College: San Francisco State University

**First Job:**

1st Summer Job: Helping to build green houses for a rose nursery.

1st Full Time Job: Ticket seller for the Red & White Fleet Boat Tours in San Francisco.

**Interests:**

He enjoys playing and watching sports, especially volleyball.

**Fun Fact:**

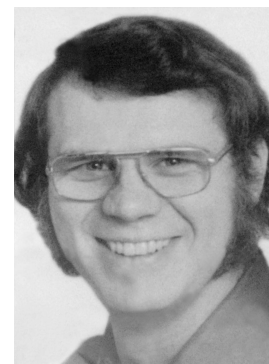
Mike collects and raises freshwater tropical fish. He has 14 tanks/tubs at home, ranging from 20 gallons to 100 gallons.

## CLASS of 1980-1981



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Congratulations to Dr. Carlos Moreno-Cabral for being the first to identify last issue's featured photos. Ricardo Moreno-Cabral is now a cardiac surgeon in private practice in San Diego, CA. Jose Madamba has retired from general surgery practice. Nahidh Hasaniya is now a cardiac surgeon on the faculty of Loma Linda University in California.



Who are these surgical pioneers above? Send your guesses to [hawaiiisurg@gmail.com](mailto: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! Together we've exceeded our goal!!

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](mailto:mariachu@hawaii.edu) or (808)586-2925 for any questions.



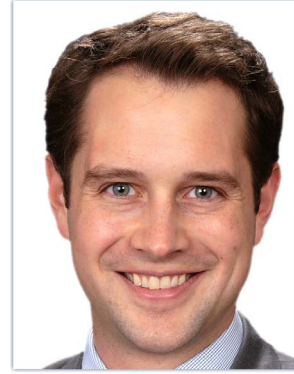
## 2016-17 INCOMING RESIDENTS

By: Residency Staff



### **Vincent Nip (Surgery)**

Vincent graduated from USC with a Master's of Science in Global Medicine after earning his Bachelor's in Cell and Molecular Biology from Occidental College in Los Angeles, California. He matriculated at Creighton University in Nebraska and graduates with his M.D. in June. Vincent enjoys playing and watching sports, fitness in general, and playing and listening to music. Prior to college, Vinnie was an All-State basketball player for I'olani School (in Honolulu) under legendary Coach Mark Mugiishi.



### **Andrew Mueller (Surgery)**

Andrew completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and Mathematics from St. Olaf College in Minnesota. He matriculated to the Medical College of Wisconsin where he will complete his M.D. in May. Andrew was awarded the prestigious Dr. Elaine Kohler Global Health Research Scholarship. Under the supervision of internist Dr. Theodore MacKinney, he helped develop a global quality health study. Conducted in Nepal, the study was aimed at using QI methods to assess the level of follow-up and improvement of outcomes related to diabetes mellitus in that area of the world. Andrew participates in golf, SCUBA, skiing, soccer, swimming, and travel when time is available.



### **Stephanie Yoshimura (Surgery)**

Stephanie completed her Bachelor of Science in Economics, Statistics and Mathematics at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and followed that with a Master's of Public Health in Healthcare Policy and Management. She matriculated at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia where she will graduate in May with a combined M.D./M.P.H. Stephanie is an accomplished swimmer having been a USA Olympic Swimming Trials Qualifier and a competitive swimming medalist at several different levels. She was named an Academic All-American in Women's Collegiate Water Polo. In addition to her athletic endeavors, she enjoys the study of leadership, team dynamics, and health care management.



### **Alexander Casella (Surgery)**

Alexander graduated from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science before matriculating at Charles E. Smith College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University, where he graduated with his M.D. in April. Alex is an accomplished martial artist with advanced belts in Shuri Ryu Karate and Shotokan Karate. He describes himself as a proficient guitar player; Alex is also a photographer, a SCUBA diver, and he enjoys traditional Mediterranean cooking.





**Ellie Cohen (Surgical Critical Care)**

Ellie is completing her third year of Surgical Residency training at the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota and will join the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship on July 1, then will return to Hennepin to finish her residency training next June. Ellie follows a long line of previous Hennepin residents that have successfully completed the Fellowship during PGY-4 (Marc Osbourne, Sara Wildenberg, Tim Perkins, and Kiersten Norby).



**Ian Hasegawa (Orthopaedics)**

Ian matriculated to the University of Hawai'i JABSOM after acquiring a Master's in Science in Nutritional Studies from the UH Mānoa, a Master's in Sports Nutrition from the International Olympic Committee, and a Bachelor's of Science in Exercise Science at Colorado State University. Ian matched to the Orthopaedics Research Track here where he will complete a 1-year orthopaedic research fellowship following his second year of clinical training. He has participated in numerous community and school-based service activities and leadership roles throughout his medical school career including the JABSOM Homeless Outreach and Medical Education project, the JABSOM Medical Student Mentorship program, the Student Health Education Program, and he was a member of the Surgery and Sports Medicine Interest Groups. He has also served as an assistant coach for the Mililani High School Boys Varsity Soccer team, as a volunteer for The Queen's Medical Center Sports Medicine Team, a human anatomy tutor for MS1s and MS2s, a PBL coach for MS1s, and a coordinator for the JABSOM Financial Literacy Program.



**Carlos Astorga (Surgery-Preliminary)**

Carlos (Preliminary Resident) is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria. He will enter the Anesthesiology Residency at UC Davis in July 2017. In his free time, Carlos participates in kayaking, swimming, bodyboarding, hiking, and cooking Mexican recipes.



**Jonathan Praeger (Surgical Critical Care)**

Jon will complete his surgical residency training at Mount Sinai St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center Program (New York City) in June and start the SCC Fellowship on July 1. He received his M.D. in 2009 from Semmelweis University Faculty of Medicine in Budapest, Hungary. Jon is co-author of Off-Pump Plication of Left Ventricular Aneurysm published in the *Annals of Thoracic Surgery* in October 2011. Jon pursues tennis, rock climbing, hiking, snowboarding, cooking, and travel when he has spare time.



**Gordon Lee (Orthopaedics)**

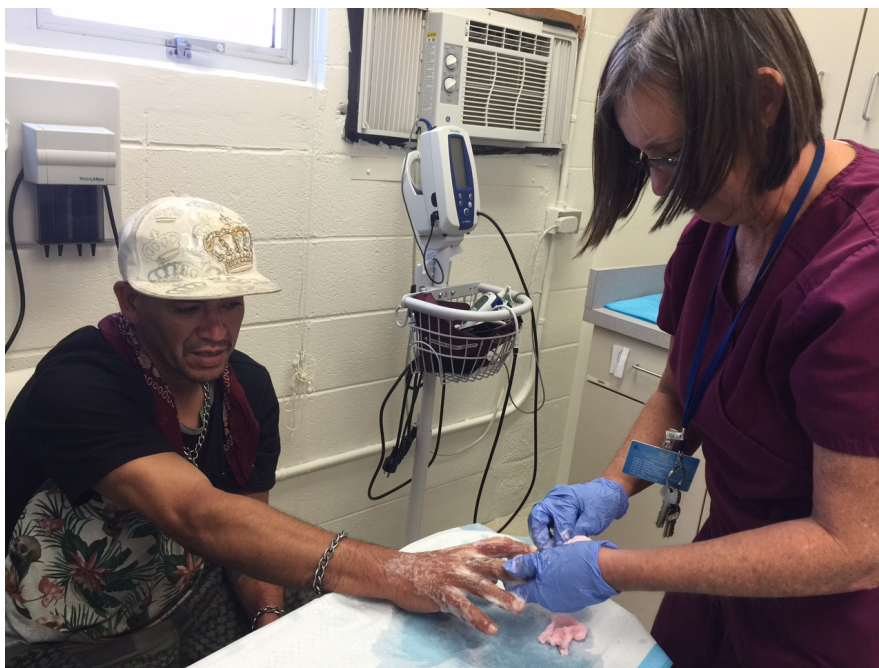
Gordon completed his Bachelor of Science in Biology and his M.D. from the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Reno, Nevada. Gordon is participating in a study analyzing possible predictors of outcome in patients with multiple traumatic amputations sustained from blast fractures in Operation Iraqi Freedom. This study has been submitted for publication and was presented at the Society of Military Orthopaedic Surgeons. Gordon's hobbies and interests are piano, skiing, tennis, longboarding, and speed-boarding (downhill skateboarding!)



## JABSOM Surgeons Serve Locally and Internationally

Inspired by the call to do justice and serve poor and underserved populations, Manami Okado, MD, FACS, and Andrew Oishi, MD, FACS, general surgeons and assistant professors in the Department of Surgery and University Health Partners of Hawaii faculty, participate in medical missions here on O'ahu and internationally.

Dr. Oishi and Dr. Okado each work once a month at the Institute for Human Services (IHS) medical clinic in Iwilei. It is a free walk-in medical clinic serving the homeless living in the IHS shelter and in the surrounding community. It is run by a registered nurse, Elizabeth Glenn, and volunteer staff. The surgeons also accompany the IHS staff on medical outreach to the homeless in Aala Park and in downtown Honolulu. Diabetic foot ulcers, venous stasis ulcers, and non-healing traumatic wounds due to noncompliance are common. Many have chronic wounds, some which have been present for over a decade.



Elizabeth Glenn, RN, bandaging a patient's finger that has been cleaned and debrided by Dr. Okado.

Dr. Okado observed, "Interestingly, although most of the patients have medical insurance, they just do not make it to doctors' offices. Maybe it's all the paperwork they have to fill out or maybe they don't have transportation. Or perhaps they are ashamed of being surrounded by non-homeless people in a doctor's waiting room. Whatever the reason, they come to the IHS clinic instead."

She continued, "I realize that these wounds will recur as long as we don't address the underlying cause but, in these folks, the underlying cause is difficult to treat. So why do we do it? My hope is that someday they will get out of their current situation. While they figure out how to put their lives back together and develop an ability to take care of themselves, I want to help. And the one way I can help is to treat their wounds and encourage them."

Dr. Oishi also leads medical missions trips to serve in areas overseas that do not have access to medical care. He has led multiple missions to the Philippines, Myanmar and most recently to Africa and Cambodia. In June 2015, he led a team comprised of physicians, a nurse, a dental hygienist, a massage therapist, and assistants to work with Advocates for Africa's Children, a nonprofit organization serving orphans and families afflicted by HIV/AIDS and poverty in the remote village of Mgambeni, Swaziland. The mission team set up a temporary medical clinic inside the local church and treated over 700 adults and children. The team also donated medications and supplies to the local hospitals and clinics, which were experiencing a critical shortage. As a result of their mission and the health/medical data they collected, the Swazi government is now contemplating establishing a permanent medical clinic in the village of Mgambeni.

In January 2016, Dr. Oishi led another team to work with Agape International Missions (AIM), a nonprofit organization in Cambodia that rescues girls and women from prostitution and human trafficking and then reintegrates them back into the community. The team of physicians, nurses, a pharmacist and assistants treated over 600 patients, providing general medical as well as gynecologic care and performing minor surgery in tents set up in the backyard of a church. They also gave Hepatitis B and Tetanus vaccinations to AIM's staff and to rescued girls. In addition, they taught and mentored local medical providers. Finally, they donated over \$4,000 in medical supplies to the local clinic. Dr. Oishi is already planning his third medical mission trip to Cambodia for this Fall, 2016.

Both Dr. Okado and Dr. Oishi find that giving back to the community both locally and internationally has greatly enriched their professional practices and personal lives. "One of the best ways that we can demonstrate our gratitude for the training we received and the opportunity to practice medicine with JABSOM is to give back to the people of our community and our world," said Dr. Oishi.



## JABSOM Surgeons Serve Locally and Internationally continued



Cambodia mission team at the outdoor medical clinic site



Cambodia mission: Mentoring local medical providers to perform minor surgical procedures



Performing minor surgery and wound care in remote Swaziland homestead



Dr. Oishi, Ms. Heidi Lum (director of Advocates for Africa's Children), Dr. Laurie Tam, and Swazi villagers



Have story ideas or want to submit an article? Contact us at [hawaiiisurg@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiiisurg@gmail.com)