

Opening Remarks

Nancy L. Ascher, MD, PhD
Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery

Special Remarks

Hobart W. Harris, MD, MPH
Professor and Chief, General Surgery

Presentations

UCSF Faculty

Honorees

Norman Christensen, MD
Orlo Clark, MD
Leo Eloesser, MD
William Hoffman, MD
William Newmeyer, MD
John Q. Owsley, MD
Jeffrey M. Pearl, MD
Thomas Russell, MD
Arthur N. Thomas, MD
Donald Trunkey, MD

Loupes Recipients

Ian Brown, MD, PhD
Matthew Kutcher, MD
Patrick Lang, MD
Kenneth Loh, MD
Natalie Lui, MD
Anne W.G. Peled, MD
Sara Runge, MD
Natalie Seiser, MD, PhD
Christina Wei, MD
Francis Wolf, MD

Norman Christensen, MD

Dr. Christensen is a community surgeon whose entire career has been centered in Eureka, California. He received his BA and MD degrees from Stanford and completed the Stanford surgical residency program at San Francisco General Hospital in 1955. He was a medical officer in the Navy from 1950-1952.

The most important event of Dr. Christensen's professional life occurred when his friend William Blaisdell, Chief of Surgery at San Francisco General Hospital, asked him to spend a week at SFGH as a member of the staff. From then on, first under Dr. Blaisdell and later under Drs. Trunkey and Lewis, Dr. Christensen spent several weeks or months each summer as a member of the UCSF clinical faculty. The association was to have a profound, lasting and important influence on Dr. Christensen's work. He has also been a member of the clinical faculty at UC Davis.

Dr. Christensen was involved with the American College of Surgeons serving as councilor, governor, and president of the Northern California Chapter. He has been a member of several other surgical societies, including the Naffziger Society. Dr. Christensen is also a past president of the Pacific Coast Surgical Society.

Dr. Christensen retired in 2001. Since then, he has spent a lot of time fly-fishing, working with bird hunting dogs, and catching up on the classics, which he felt he had always neglected as an undergraduate.

Recently, along with Drs. Bill Schechter, Bob Lim, George Sheldon and Bill Blaisdell, he wrote "The History of the Surgical Service at San Francisco General Hospital", which was published by the Naffziger Society in 2007.

Donald Trunkey, MD

Donald Trunkey MD is an internationally renowned trauma surgeon and is considered the father of modern trauma systems. He was one of the first surgeons to incorporate the concepts of preventable death methods and evidence-based practice in support of trauma systems. Born and raised in Palouse country in Eastern Washington, his early work included farming, mining, carpentry and sheet rocking. He attended Washington State and the University of Washington Medical School. Uncertain about medicine or surgery as a career, he decided to do a rotating internship with Dr. Bert Dunphy at the University of Oregon. After one month on the surgical service, there was no question of what career to pursue. Following his internship, he spent two years in the United States Army as a general medical officer in Germany. Upon completion of his military duties, Dr. Trunkey rejoined Dr. Dunphy at UCSF, where he completed his general surgery residency training. He was offered a faculty position and became involved in the care of trauma patients. He was Chief of the Burn Center at SFGH. He had a keen interest in elective vascular surgery and non-cardiac thoracic surgery. He established a laboratory to study mechanisms of shock at the cellular level with a special interest in myocardial performance following shock, lung injury, and cellular immune mechanisms following injury.

Dr. Trunkey served as Chief of Surgery at SFGH from 1978 until 1986 and was a major force in pushing the Trauma agenda. He served as Chair of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma, and during his tenure, both the Advanced Trauma Life Support Course and Trauma Center Verification Program were adopted by the ACS. In April 1986, he became Chairman of Surgery at Oregon Health Sciences University, a position he held until 2001. Dr. Trunkey is a founding member of both the Homeland Security Department and the National Foundation for Trauma Care.

Dr. Trunkey stepped down as Chairman of the National Foundation for Trauma Care in August 2007, but remains an active advocate for trauma system creation and improvement throughout the U.S. and the world. He continues to be a site reviewer for the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma to determine whether applicant hospitals meet the requirements to become a Level I, II, III or IV verified trauma center. This past year he participated in trauma system development conferences and courses in many countries, including China, United Kingdom, Canada, Finland, Australia, and Greece.

Arthur N. Thomas, MD

Dr. Thomas was born in Los Angeles in 1931. He graduated from Stanford University in 1952 and from Medical School at the University of British Columbia in 1957. From 1957 – 1959, he was an Intern and Surgical Resident at Stanford. When Stanford relocated to Palo Alto, in 1959, he changed Surgical Residency to UCSF. The UCSF affiliation remained for his entire professional career, with General Surgical Residency, Research Fellowship, and training in Cardiothoracic Surgery at UCSF. He obtained Board Certification in General Surgery in 1963 and Cardiothoracic Surgery in 1966.

Dr. Thomas' research included a three year VA Clinical Investigator position (CVRI, Julius Comroe), to study prolonged circulatory arrest using hyperbaric oxygen. A few years later, he was awarded a 3 year NIH Grant, investigating the feasibility of using a membranous oxygenator for long-term (days) heart-lung by-pass for treatment of acute respiratory failure. He was appointed Professor of Surgery in Residence, and has published over 125 scientific articles, several book chapters, abstracts, and scientific presentations. He was Chief of Thoracic Surgery at San Francisco General Hospital. His special interests included: surgical management of cardiac arrhythmias; cardiac trauma, air embolism with pulmonary injury, tracheal stenosis following prolonged intubation, esophageal resection without thoracotomy, and management of other esophageal disease or injuries. He has received several UCSF Surgical Resident Teaching Awards.

Dr. Thomas founded the Samson Thoracic Surgical Society (with Dr. David Dugan), now known as the Western Thoracic Surgical Association (WTSA), which had its 34th Annual Meeting in Kona, Hawaii, in June 2008. He is a Past President of the WTSA and a permanent member of the Council as Councilor-Founder. He is a member of several other Surgical societies, including: The Pacific Coast Surgical Association, The American Association for Thoracic Surgery, the Society for Thoracic Surgeons, and the International Society of Vascular Surgery.

He recently celebrated with his wife, Adeline, their 58th Wedding Anniversary. They have four daughters, one son, and five grandchildren. All 5 children have successful careers and live with their families, somewhat dispersed in the US.

Orlo Clark, MD

Orlo Clark MD, currently Professor of Surgery at UCSF, was Chief of the Department of Surgery at UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center from 1990 to 2003 and Vice-Chairman of the Department of Surgery at UCSF. He received his bachelor's and medical degrees from Cornell University before completing his internship and residency in surgery at UCSF and a fellowship in Endocrine Surgical Oncology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical Center, Hammersmith Hospital in London.

Dr. Clark chairs the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) neuroendocrine guidelines panel as well as the NCCN thyroid cancer panel. He has been a member of the thyroid cancer guidelines committee of the American Thyroid Association, and a member of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. He is also a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and a member of many professional societies. Dr. Clark served as President of the American Thyroid Association, the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, and the International Association of Endocrine Surgeons. He is the current President Elect of the Pacific Coast Surgical Association. He is frequently listed in "San Francisco's Top Doctors", "The Best Doctors in America", "Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare", and in the "Guide of Top Doctors".

Dr. Clark has written and edited 10 books, over a hundred book chapters, several monographs, more than 300 peer reviewed articles, and nine movies. He serves on the editorial board for Medical Intelligence Unit Reports, Postgraduate General Surgery, The European Journal of Surgery, Endocrine Practice, Annals of Surgical Oncology, and International Journal of Surgical Sciences. He is an editorial reviewer for these publications as well as for Surgery, the Journal of the American Medical Association, Cancer, Cancer Research, the Journal of Clinical Oncology, American Cancer Society and the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, among others. Dr. Clark has given more than 225 presentations around the world during his career. He has had visiting professorships in Sicily, Switzerland, Germany, Kuwait, Turkey, Sweden and Japan and has received a Docteur Honora Causa from Poiter University, France. He has also received numerous teaching awards.

Leo Eloesser, MD (1881 – 1976)

The extraordinary Leo Eloesser was born in San Francisco in 1881. His life-long dedication to music was an inheritance of his youth (his father was a pianist and he and his siblings were all encouraged to become musicians). During his undergraduate years at UC Berkeley, Eloesser's preoccupation with music took precedence over his academic studies, but he graduated with honors, a half-year ahead of schedule.¹ In 1901, dissuaded from a career in music by an Ophthalmologist who was a family friend, Eloesser went to Germany to study medicine. Not surprisingly, his student years in Germany were not all medicine. Years later, Eloesser said, "I used to play the fiddle in those days and occasionally the viola and we had quartets among the students and I went a lot to the opera . . . each holiday before my clinical semesters I would go some place I wanted to see. I was in Russia during the Tsarist regime . . . I went to Hungary and I played the fiddle with gypsies there and I had a wonderful time."¹

Eloesser returned to San Francisco and the City and County Hospital in 1909, volunteering as an intern on the UC Service when the hospital was temporarily located at the Ingleside Racetrack. Busy years followed, first at the University of California under UC surgical chief Wallace Terry, and then at Stanford. He was considered to be an excellent teacher, a superb diagnostician, a compassionate physician, and a brilliant scientific writer who began publishing while still in training. Among his many artist and musician friends were Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo, whose portrait of Dr. Eloesser painted in 1931 currently hangs in the lobby of SFGH.

According to his biographer,² the Eloesser legend is that of a workhorse with "no concept of time, day or night", a pioneer in thoracic surgery, performing operations for tuberculosis that were heroic for both surgeon and patient (he devised the chest flap that bears his name)—and relaxation in music, the arts and sailing his sloop on San Francisco Bay at night. Eloesser, who had a gift for languages, became a citizen of the world, serving in German military hospitals during the first years of World War I "until the sinking of the Lusitania convinced him of his true loyalty."² At the age of 56, he saw active service in the Spanish Civil War, with his own Mobile Surgical Hospital, and later conducted a medical relief mission in China for the United Nations following the Second World War. After suffering persecution during the McCarthy era, he and his companion retired to Mexico, where he set up a clinic to treat the disadvantaged in the area. He saw patients until he died at the age of 95.

¹ "Leo Eloesser, MD, Eulogy for a Free Spirit. Harris B. Shumacker Jr, NY Philosophical Library. 1982.", book review by J. Gordon Scannell MD in *Ann Surg.* 1983 August; 198(2): 235–238.² *The History of the Surgical Service at San Francisco General Hospital.* W. Schechter, R. Lim, G. Sheldon, N. Christensen, and W. Blaisdell.

Thomas R. Russell, MD

Thomas R. Russell, MD, FACS, a native of San Francisco, CA, is the Executive Director of the American College of Surgeons. He is also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Surgery at Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, IL. A former private practice general surgeon who specialized in colon and rectal surgery, he has held his current position since January 2000.

Dr. Russell received a BA degree in zoology from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1962 and an MD degree from Creighton University Medical School, Omaha, NE, in 1966. He completed a rotating internship at San Francisco General Hospital from 1966 to 1967 and began his residency training in general surgery at the University of California, San Francisco, in 1967. His residency training was interrupted by military service in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970, during which he was a Lieutenant Commander and US Navy Flight Surgeon. Dr. Russell resumed his residency training in general surgery at UCSF in 1971 and completed it in 1975. He undertook a research project on gastrointestinal hormones physiology at the Veterans Hospital-Fort Miley in San Francisco, and a fellowship in pancreatic surgery at the American Hospital, the Hospital de la Pitie, and the Hospitiaux de Paris in Paris, France. Dr. Russell did a preceptorship in colon and rectal surgery in San Francisco from 1975 to 1977. Dr. Russell was affiliated with the California Pacific Medical Center from 1975 to 1999, where he served as Chairman of its Department of Surgery from 1980 to 1999. He was also affiliated with several hospitals in the San Francisco area and served as a teacher and leader in various activities at the University of California. He has held a faculty appointment at UCSF since 1975; a Clinical Professor since 1986.

Dr. Russell has been an active participant in the work of the American Board of Surgery, the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery, and the Residency Review Committee for Colon and Rectal Surgery. In addition to the College, he holds membership in and has been active in the affairs of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons, the International Society of Surgery, the San Francisco Surgical Society, the San Francisco Medical Society, the Naffziger Surgical Society, the Pacific Coast Surgical Association, and the Northern California Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. Dr. Russell has published extensively on scientific and educational topics related to colon and rectal surgery and general surgery.

Dr. Russell and his wife Dr. Nona Chiampi Russell have been married since 1979 and have two children.

Jeffrey M. Pearl, MD

Dr. Jeffrey M. Pearl is a Professor of Surgery at UCSF and Vice Chair of Finance in the Department of Surgery. He is also Associate Dean, UCSF/Mount Zion and Associate Chief Medical Officer at UCSF Medical Center at Mount Zion. Dr. Pearl attended UC Berkeley and completed his medical degree at Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Dr. Pearl completed his internship and residency at UC San Diego, which was followed by appointments as major in the US Army and instructor in surgery at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Pearl began his surgical career at Mount Zion in 1978 and joined the faculty at UCSF in 1981. He is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and holds the Fishbon Endowed Chair in Ambulatory Surgery.

Dr. Pearl's interests include hernia, venous access, and patient safety. He is the creator and Director of the Northern California Hernia Center at UCSF/Mount Zion. He also created the Central Venous Access Service, which he directed until 1999, when he merged it into Interventional Radiology. He continues to be a provider of this service on the Mount Zion campus and continues to teach medical students and residents.

Dr. Pearl is a member of all of the major surgical societies including the American College of Surgeons, San Francisco Surgical Society, Pacific Coast Surgical Society, National Association of Vascular Access Networks, American Hernia Society, Naffziger Surgical Society, Society Internationale de Chirurgie, California Academy of Medicine, San Francisco Medical Society, and Vascular Access Society of the Americans. Dr. Pearl has provided service to the San Francisco Surgical Society, American Board of Surgery, and San Francisco Medical Society. He is an ad-hoc reviewer of the Journal of Urology.

Dr. Pearl grew up in San Francisco and continues to reside in the Bay Area with his wife, Anne. His inspiration for his work comes from his father, Dr. Milton Pearl, who was the Chief of Surgery and Chief of Staff at Mount Zion Hospital.

William Hoffman, MD

Dr. William Hoffman is the current Chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at UCSF. He graduated cum laude from Yale University and obtained his Medical Degree from the University of Rochester, School of Medicine. He completed residency training in General Surgery at UCSF in 1983 and in Plastic Surgery at UCSF in 1985.

Dr. Hoffman completed a fellowship year at the Institute for Reconstructive Plastic Surgery at NYU with Dr. Joseph McCarthy, studying craniofacial and cleft lip surgery. Subsequently Dr. Hoffman returned to UCSF to join the faculty, serving as the Chief of Plastic Surgery at San Francisco General Hospital from 1988 to 1996, and Director of Education for the division from 1996 to 2005. He became the Chief of the Division and Program Director of the residency in plastic surgery in 2005.

Dr. Hoffman is board certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery. He is internationally recognized for his work in primary craniofacial and pediatric plastic surgery. At UCSF, he performs 300-400 pediatric operations a year on children with a wide range of deformities, including cleft lip and palate, craniosynostosis, facial palsy, hemangiomas, birthmarks, and vascular anomalies.

His adult practice deals with complex facial reconstruction as well as facial aesthetic surgery, which include facelifts, rhinoplasty, and blepharoplasty.

He has published over 35 peer-reviewed articles as well as numerous invited chapters. He is on the Board of the American Society of Maxillofacial Surgery, the Executive Council of the California Society of Plastic Surgeons, is the current President of the American Society of Pediatric Plastic Surgery, and is a senior examiner for the American Board of Plastic Surgery. He has been voted one of America's Top Doctors for several years.

William Newmeyer, MD

Dr. Newmeyer was born in Denver in 1936. He graduated from Haverford College in 1957 and from Cornell (now Weill Cornell) Medical College in 1961. He trained in general surgery at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City from 1961 to 1966. He served in the US Army Medical Corps from 1966 to 1968 and returned to Roosevelt for a hand surgery fellowship under JW Littler MD and Richard Eaton MD from 1968 to 1969.

In 1970, Dr. Newmeyer moved to San Francisco and joined Eugene Kilgore, Jr MD in the practice of hand surgery and became affiliated with UCSF. During the 1970s they were heavily involved in covering the general surgery extremity service at San Francisco General Hospital. This was a very active service and a very rewarding one in terms of their association with the general surgery residents who rotated on it. It was also exhausting. Concurrently, Drs. Newmeyer and Kilgore covered hand clinics both at UCSF and the SF VA. These stimulating and rewarding duties continued into the mid 1990's.

Dr. Newmeyer's other teaching endeavors included the San Francisco Orthopedic Residency Program and the St. Francis Memorial Hospital Plastic Surgery Residency Program. Drs. Newmeyer and Kilgore conducted a hand fellowship program in their private office and trained approximately 20 fellows, several of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in hand surgery.

Dr. Newmeyer advanced steadily through the clinical ranks at UCSF and was named a Clinical Professor of Surgery in 1991. He is the author of 68 publications. During his career, he became a member of the San Francisco Surgical Society, the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, the American College of Surgeons, the AMA, CMA and SF Medical Society. He was certified in Surgery in 1967 and received a Certificate of Added Qualification in Hand Surgery in 1991. He served as an associate editor and then as a Deputy editor of the Journal of Hand Surgery.

He married Nancy Waller Newmeyer in 1962 and they have two married children and three grandchildren, all of whom live in the SF Bay area. Dr. Newmeyer retired in 1999.

John Q. Owsley, MD

Dr. Owsley graduated from Vanderbilt University College and Medical School. He received his surgical and plastic surgical residency training at UCSF and was appointed Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery and Assistant Research Surgeon in the School of Dentistry at UCSF in 1960. He served as Plastic Surgery Consultant to the Cleft Palate-Cranial Facial Anomalies Clinic and Attending Plastic Surgeon at UCSF. He advanced to the rank of Clinical Professor of Surgery in 1980.

A member of numerous plastic surgical and surgical societies, Dr. Owsley served as President of the American Cleft Palate Association from 1977-1978. He served for two years as Secretary of the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons and was Chairmen of the Ethics Committee for the American Society of Plastic Surgeons for three years.

Dr. Owsley is the principle author of approximately 80 peer reviewed journal articles and more than 10 book chapters. He is the sole author of the 1993 text book, Aesthetic Facial Surgery, published by W.B. Saunders. In 1989, he started the Annual Aesthetic Surgery Symposium sponsored by CPMC - Davies Medical Center and the UCSF Department of Continuing Education. The symposium continued until 2002 when it was merged with an Annual Symposium sponsored by the Educational Foundation of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. In 1990, he inaugurated the one year fellowship in Aesthetic Surgery through the Aesthetic Surgery Institute of CPMC - Davies Medical Center. The fellowship continues to date. In 2006, he received a citation for Excellence in Education from the Educational Foundation of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.