

2015 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Opening Remarks: Nancy Ascher, MD, PhD
 Professor and Department Chair

Presentations by Department of Surgery Faculty

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Jhoanne Bautista, M.D., Ph.D. was born in the Philippines but grew up in Yonkers, New York. She took what arguably is the longest path to general surgery, having gone to MIT for degree in inorganic chemistry after graduating from Barnard College in New York, then finally completing a combined MD/PhD training program at Washington University in St. Louis after more soul-searching in various labs. Her graduate research focused on the mechanisms involved in the development of peripheral and thymus-derived Tregs and she plans to continue working on autoimmunity, organ rejection and immune reconstitution. Dr. Bautista's extracurricular activities are centered on whatever her 4-year old daughter, Rei, thinks is fun-- which currently are day trips to the beach or the playground, Pixar movies, and toy shopping. She enjoys inventing new cake and icing recipes, sculpting chocolate or fondant, and her annual project is constructing elaborate 3-tier Disney themed cakes for Rei's birthday.

Clara Gomez-Sanchez, M.D. grew up in Jackson, Mississippi as the baby of a family saturated with degrees and intensely focused on internal medicine and endocrinology. After receiving her undergraduate degree at Emory University, she returned home to the Deep South for medical school at the University of Mississippi. Although the decision to pursue a surgical career painted her as the black sheep of the family, she hasn't doubted for a minute that the life of a surgeon is the life for her. In her spare time, she used to ride horses for fun and competition, but sleep, wine tasting, and the art of brunch have taken over as her main hobbies since starting residency.

Greg Haro, M.D. was raised in both Northern California and the Twin Cities, Minnesota. He attended the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University where he received a Bachelor of Music in Classical Trumpet Performance. Dr. Haro freelanced as a professional musician in Houston and worked at the Texas Heart Institute's surgical research laboratory for the next two years. He subsequently attended the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center where he obtained his medical degree and met his wife Sara who is a UCSF Pediatrics resident. In his free time, he enjoys long distance running, eating Mission burritos, and exploring the San Francisco tiki bar scene.

Audrey Nguyen, M.D. was raised in Orange County, California. She received her undergraduate degree in Bioengineering at UCLA where she also spent time snowboarding with the Ski and Snowboard Team as well as directing a student-run nonprofit fashion show for several years. Audrey went to medical school at UC Irvine and was drawn to plastic surgery for its creative and artistic challenges. She illustrated for the book "Personalized Breast Care: A Guide for Cosmetic Surgery, Breast Cancer, and Reconstruction". She also went on two medical mission trips to Vietnam and Honduras for cleft lip and palate surgery during medical school. She enjoys cooking, trying out new restaurants, visiting wine country, and hiking during her free time.

Quoc-Hung Nguyen, M.D. had an international upbringing as the son of expatriates, spending 2-3 years apiece in different countries. He earned his undergraduate degree at Columbia University, and went on to attend medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Outside of the operating room, Dr. Nguyen is a nationally ranked Latin ballroom dancer, and continues to practice and teach in residency. He otherwise enjoys photography and travel in his free time.

Juliet Siena Okoroh, M.D., MPH graduated from the University of Georgia majoring in Biology. After this she worked for the department of defense and subsequently as a congressional staffer for Senator Tom Harkin on Capitol Hill. She attended medical school at UCSD School of Medicine under the Program for Medical Education-Health Equity and obtained a Masters in Public Health in Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health. She is most passionate about the intersection of social entrepreneurship and policy. She was one of the recipients of San Diego Business Journal Top 25 In Their Twenties award and continues to foster her interest in improving access to surgical care in resource limited settings. She was born and raised in Nigeria, and is a first generation immigrant to the United States with her mom and sisters.

Hunter Oliver-Allen, M.D. was born and raised in California. He earned his undergraduate degree in mathematics and biochemistry at Colorado College and then attended Indiana University for medical school. A competitive athlete, Hunter played collegiate soccer during undergrad and went on to compete in Ironman triathlons prior to medical school.

Along the way, he spent time researching at the NIH and Harvard in the fields of immunology and vascular surgery. In his free time, Hunter is an avid fly fisherman and enjoys traveling, tying his own flies, skiing, cycling, running, being outdoors and spending time with family and friends.

James Ross, M.D., M.S. was born in England and raised in Southern California. He completed a combined undergraduate and master's program in biochemistry at Oxford University, with his thesis work on the binding interactions of human complement regulators. Dr. Ross worked as a management consultant for several years before returning to the University of Colorado for medical school. Outside of the hospital, James enjoys being outdoors, hiking, running and reading.

Oren Shaked, M.D. grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he majored in History with a concentration in geopolitics surrounding the advent of the First World War. He remained in Philadelphia for a year to continue his research with his undergraduate mentor, before starting medical school also at the University of Pennsylvania. When out of the hospital, he enjoys reading, movies, hiking and skiing.

Casey Ward, M.D. was born and raised in Corvallis and Bend, OR. He obtained his undergraduate degree in Biochemistry/Biophysics and Immunology from Oregon State University before attending Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), where he obtained his MD. For the last 12 years, Casey and his wife Erin have traveled to Aposento Alto, Mexico to help start and serve in a community clinic and orphanage each summer and winter. Because of this experience, his bench research has focused on HIV and his clinical research on the unmet need for surgery in developing countries. Following residency, Casey hopes to couple his clinical and humanitarian interests with his passion for improving health in underserved areas both domestic and abroad. Outside of the OR, Casey enjoys spending time with his wife Erin, music, sports, traveling, learning foreign languages, cooking and running.

Ning Chang, M.D.

Dr. Ning Chang grew up in Provo, Utah and received his undergraduate degree with honors from the University of Utah in 1973. He continued his medical education at the University of Utah where he earned his medical degree in 1977. Dr. Chang then moved to San Francisco for his residency training in both General Surgery and Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of California San Francisco. During this time, he completed a year of research in the Wound Healing Laboratory at UCSF, where he developed great interest in the prevention of surgical infection and optimization of wound healing. He conducted research in wound healing and studied subcutaneous tissue oxygen level and tissue perfusion in surgical patients. Dr. Chang and his colleagues held the patent for the dissolving oxygen electrode for continuous readout of tissue oxygen tension. Dr. Chang went on to complete a fellowship in facial aesthetic surgery at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital in New York.

Dr. Chang's current appointments include Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of California San Francisco. He is on the medical staff at California Pacific Medical Center. He belongs to several surgical organizations including the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, and the American College of Surgeons. He is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Dr. Chang is the author of thirty original articles and book chapters on various topics in surgery and plastic surgery. He has made presentation on surgery of the face and body at various symposia, regional, national, and international meetings. Dr. Chang has received numerous awards, including a first place in Scholarship Contest of the Plastic Surgery Education Foundation in 1981 and 1984, citation for outstanding service and contribution for the advancement of aesthetic surgery from the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery in 2000, Outstanding Clinical Faculty Award at the University of California San Francisco in 2003, and "America's Top Surgeon" in 2003, 2006, 2008 and 2012 by the Consumer Research Council of America.

Dr. Chang was invited to discuss topics related to surgical correction of suboptimal liposuction outcome and eyelid surgery at the scientific meeting of the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery in 2010 and 2014 respectively.

Ernest B. Colen, M.D.

Dr. Ernest Colen was born and raised in New York City. After completing college at Colgate University, he earned his medical degree from Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire. Dr. Colen went on to complete his General Surgery Residency and Plastic Surgery Residency at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Colen went on to complete a fellowship in Hand and Microsurgery with Dr. Harry Buncke.

In 1983, Dr. Colen joined the faculty at Dartmouth Medical School where he worked until 1990. In 1990 he relocated to Norfolk, Virginia, joining the practice of Charles Horton, M.D. before starting his own Plastic Surgery practice in 1994. Dr. Colen is currently a Professor of Surgery (Plastic & Reconstructive) at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Dr. Colen is past president of the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery and presently a Director of the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Dr. Colen has had a career-long interest in diabetic foot and dysvascular limb reconstruction and has been faculty at the Georgetown Diabetic Limb Amputation Symposium, the Duke Medical School Flap Dissection Workshop, the Mayo Clinic-Chang Gung Memorial Hospital Reconstructive Surgery Symposium.

Yan-Yang Duh, M.D.

Yan-Yang Duh is Professor of Surgery, Section Chief of Endocrine Surgery, Attending Physician at the University of California, San Francisco. He is also Attending Surgeon at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Dr. Duh graduated from Yale University, New Haven, CT with a B.S. in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry. He completed his surgical internship, residency and postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, in San Francisco. He is board certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Dr. Duh is recognized internationally and nationally as an expert endocrine surgeon and advanced laparoscopic surgeon. He specializes in the treatment of endocrine cancers and tumors, including those from the thyroid, parathyroid, pancreas and adrenal glands. He is an expert minimally invasive surgeon and performed laparoscopic adrenalectomy and laparoscopic hernia repair, and minimally invasive surgery for parathyroid and thyroid gland, as well as other complex laparoscopic and minimally invasive surgery. Dr. Duh has been the President of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, the San Francisco Surgical Society, and the Northern California Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Duh's research in endocrine cancer involved oncogenesis, genetic mutation and treatment of thyroid cancer and adrenal tumors. His clinical research involved patients with adrenal diseases (aldosteronoma, pheochromocytoma, Cushing, incidentaloma and adrenal metastasis), and minimally invasive parathyroid and thyroid operations. Dr. Duh has developed and actively teaches several new techniques for advanced laparoscopic surgery. He has authored or co-authored more than 300 articles and textbook chapters on topics of endocrine surgery and laparoscopic surgery.

Henry Goldstone, M.D.

Henry Goldstone earned his medical degree from the University of Oregon Medical School. He then came to the University of California San Francisco in 1955 for all of his surgical training, which included a two year research fellowship at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

Upon completion of his residency training, he joined the UCSF faculty, where he remained until 1999, interrupted by 4 years as Professor and Chief of Vascular Surgery at the University of Arizona. After returning to UCSF, Dr. Goldstone served as Chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery, Vice-Chair of Department of Surgery and one year as interim chair of Surgery.

The last 15 years of his clinical career were spent at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine where he held similar positions to those at UCSF, including interim chair of surgery. He is now Professor of Surgery Emeritus at CWRU.

Dr. Goldstone has had individual VA and NIH research grants, authored over 250 clinical and research papers and book chapters and 2 text books. He has held leadership positions in many regional and national professional organizations and served as president of 5. He has received numerous honors and awards including honorary Fellowship in the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and most recently, the ATLAS award from VIVA.

Dr. Goldstone is retired from clinical surgery and is now a consultant to several medical device companies in the Bay area.

Craig Kent, M.D.

Dr. Kent for the past seven years has served as the A.R. Curreri Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at University of Wisconsin. Prior to his arrival to UW, Dr. Kent was Chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery at New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2001 following the merger of New York Presbyterian Hospitals, Dr. Kent was asked to assume the role of Chief of a combined Columbia and Cornell Division of Vascular Surgery as well as Director of the Vascular Service Line for New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Kent received a BS from the University of Nevada and his medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco. He then completed a General Surgery Residency at the University of California, San Francisco and a Fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, where he was the Honorary Homan's Vascular Surgery Fellow. In 1988, Dr. Kent joined the faculty at Harvard as an Instructor in Surgery. After being promoted to Associate Professor, Dr. Kent was recruited in 1997 to New York Hospital/Cornell.

Dr. Kent has authored more than 300 peer-reviewed manuscripts as well as book chapters and reviews. His work in vascular restenosis and the pathogenesis of aneurysms has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health for the past 23 years. He is also the principal investigator of a T-32 Research Training Grant in Vascular Biology. Moreover, he has contributed significantly to the clinical research arena with publications in JAMA, the NEJM and Circulation as well as other leading journals. Dr. Kent has held leadership positions in numerous organizations including serving as President of The Society for Vascular Surgery, Director of the American Board of Vascular Surgery as well as President of the Council of Surgical Chairs. Reflecting his international reputation in the field of Vascular Surgery, Dr. Kent has been a visiting professor to nearly 60 departments of surgery around the world and has delivered numerous additional invited lectures.

Robert Mackersie, M.D.

Dr. Mackersie is the Director of Trauma Services at San Francisco General Hospital, and a Professor of Surgery at the University of California. He is an actively practicing trauma and general surgeon as well as a surgical intensivist. He works primarily at San Francisco General Hospital, a major teaching hospital for UCSF. Dr. Mackersie received his undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley; his medical degree from Michigan State University, and completed his residency in General surgery at the University of California San Francisco. His training also included a two year NIH-sponsored research fellowship. Dr. Mackersie previously served on the faculty of the University of California, San Diego, and is boarded in General Surgery and Surgical Critical Care.

Dr. Mackersie has lectured extensively in the United States and internationally. He has had a long involvement in the educational aspects of trauma, and has supervised fellowship programs in trauma, critical care, and airway management. He is the past President of the American Association for Surgery of Trauma, the Western Trauma Association, the Northern California Chapter of the American College of Surgery, the HC Naffziger Surgical Society, and the San Francisco Surgical Association. He has served as chair of the American College of Surgeons program for Trauma Systems Evaluation and Planning and currently serves as the Chair of the State of California Trauma Advisory Committee.

Dr. Mackersie is an internationally recognized authority on trauma care and trauma systems and has authored or co-authored over 140 publications, primarily on trauma-related topics. He has had a long involvement in academic and professional aspects of trauma and surgical care.

William J. Morris, M.D. (1925 – 2004)

William J. Morris grew up in Sacramento, California. It was the time of World War II and, upon graduating from high school, Bill volunteered for the Army. After a short time at the University of Colorado, he was accepted for a premedical training program and transferred to the University of California at Berkeley. When he graduated he continued on in the wartime accelerated medical school program at the University of California, San Francisco, from which he graduated after 3 years in 1948 at age 23.

After an internship and a brief period of residency at San Francisco General Hospital, Dr. Morris was called to active duty at the beginning of the Korean War. He served as a battalion surgeon with the 555th Central Postal Directory in going combat. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his valor in action. After serving in the combat zone, he was sent to Japan, where he spent most a year attached to an Army hospital caring for combat casualties.

Dr. Morris returned to San Francisco in the winter of 1953 and resumed his residency training. After pathology, general, and plastic surgery residencies at St. Francis Hospital and Franklin Hospital in San Francisco, he joined the office of Dr. Harry M. Blackfield, who was then the chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery at UCSF. Dr. Morris continued to inspire and train more than two generations of UCSF plastic surgery residents.

His research interest was in the pathology and treatment of skin tumors, including visible hemangiomas. He made salient contributions to the understanding of the treatment of involuting hemangiomas of infancy.

Dr. Morris authored numerous journal articles and several textbook chapters. He was a member of the California Society of Plastic Surgeons, the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, and the American Association of Plastic Surgeons, among other professional societies. He served as the Secretary of the California Society of Plastic Surgeons for 3 years.

His significant professional legacy is the integrity and technical excellence that he instilled in his pupils, the contributions that his former residents have made to the specialty, and the ongoing excellence of the plastic surgery residency program at the University of California, San Francisco.

Carol A. Raviola, M.D

Carol A. Raviola grew up in Upstate New York, Carol Raviola spent her formative years in Phoenix, Arizona and Madrid, Spain, during which time she had the opportunity to travel extensively with her family throughout Western Europe. She returned to Long Island as a teenager, and then attended Mount Holyoke College. Carol then attended Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons. She developed and taught a curriculum on Medical Spanish and worked in Paris, France at l'Hopital Saint Antoine, as well as in the deep interior in Dutch Guiana. A lifelong thespian, she created and performed The Perfect Neuro Anatomist in her Class Show and choreographed a production of "Guys and Dolls".

Raviola is the first woman to complete a General Surgical Residency at University of California, San Francisco, and is the first Fellow in Vascular Surgery at the University of California, Los Angeles. While a Research Investigator at the Gladstone Foundation in San Francisco, she studied protein metabolism. As a member of the Clinical Teaching Faculty in the Department of Surgery at the UCSF and Kaiser Permanente of Northern California, and more recently at the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Hospital, she educated and trained a generation of medical residents, surgical residents and fellows in vascular and endovascular surgery. She is the author of numerous clinical and scientific publications. She has taught and given invited presentations in the Soviet Union, China, India and Australia as well as throughout the US.

After retiring from surgical practice, Dr. Raviola devotes herself to the development and performance of new works in both theatre and film. She is bringing new works to life and has performed and workshopped dozens of plays for the Philadelphia Dramatists Center, where she is a Collaborative Artist, as well as several pieces for the New Play Series at the Linda at the University of Pennsylvania. On screen, Carol has appeared in numerous independent and award-winning festival films.

y Riggs, M.D. (1952 – 1988)

. Kay Riggs was a native of Northern California, who found her love of surgery and research through a high school internship program. In her personal statement for residency she wrote, "Had it not been for a seventh grade science award and a weak musical voice, I might have realized my childhood dream of singing Carmen at the Met." Kay was a multi-talented woman, known for her intelligence, dedication, compassion, humor, work ethic and courage, who was taken from us far too soon. Educated in local Sacramento schools, Dr. Riggs received a B.S. in genetics and her medical degree from the University of California, Davis before enrolling in the general surgery residency program at UCSF in 1980. By all accounts Kay was an outstanding resident, "clearly one of the finest clinical residents that we've ever had." But, at the beginning of her senior resident year she developed viral myocarditis that ultimately prevented her from completing training in general surgery. After eight months of recovery, Kay spent a year doing research with the internationally recognized surgeon-scientist Thomas K. Hunt, during which she performed high-quality studies on fibroblast function. Yet, determined to practice surgery, and with the support of then Chair, Paul A. Ebert, Kay entered the plastic surgery residency program at the University of Alabama under the guidance of Luis Sconez. Her illness continued to limit her physical stamina and thus after four months, she returned to UCSF, where she completed a fellowship in Nuclear Medicine. Throughout her academic career, Kay demonstrated a noteworthy intellect and aptitude for medical research. In fact, she worked as a Staff Research Associate conducting Cardiology research throughout undergraduate school and the first two years of medical school, all the while maintaining a full schedule of coursework. As such, she entered surgical residency at UCSF with eight abstracts, two published manuscripts and a national podium presentation to her credit. Similarly, her academic prowess was recognized with the receipt of numerous achievement awards, including the Bank of America Achievement Award, Howard C. Day Memorial Scholarship, University of California Regents Scholarship, and the Association of Western Medical Student Research Award. But, perhaps most prophetic was her receipt of the 1982 Muriel Steele Award in Surgery in recognition of her outstanding clinical performance. People who knew her remember her as a fun loving person, who loved to sing, enjoyed and sought horseback riding and rewarded many of her friends and colleagues with memorable gourmet meals. Her intellect, drive and focus were only surpassed by her courage.

iel J. Ullyot, M.D.

Ullyot received his BA from Harvard College and his BS and MD degrees from the University of Minnesota. He completed an internship in internal medicine and a residency in general surgery (both Harvard Services, Boston Hospital), and did his thoracic surgical training at UCSF, where he was a research fellow at the Cardiovascular Research Institute just before joining UCSF surgical faculty in 1971. Dr. Ullyot was Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the San Francisco Veterans Administration Hospital from 1971 - 1977.

In 1978, he founded the Cardiac Surgical Program at Peninsula Hospital in Sausalito, California, serving as Director of Cardiac Surgery there from 1978 - 2001. He was President of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association and a member of the American College of Cardiology.

Ullyot has been the author or co-author of more than 60 publications, and has served as a reviewer for the Annals of Thoracic Surgery since 1996. Ullyot has, since 2004, been a member of the California Technology Assessment Forum, which provides credible, evidence-based information about medical technologies, treatments, and models of care, serving as Chair since 2010. Dr. Ullyot also served for many years on the Peninsula Health District Board, a publically elected, non-partisan, five-member board with various responsibilities for hospital oversight (Mills-Peninsula Hospital in Sausalito), health care property development and financial stewardship.

Presentations by:

William Hoffman, MD
Scott Hansen, MD
Orlo Clark, MD
Joseph H. Rapp, MD
Linda Reilly, MD
Andre Campbell, MD
Mary McGrath, MD, MPH
Lygia Stewart, MD
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Scot Merrick, MD

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