

Opening Remarks

Nancy L. Ascher, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery

Special Remarks

Hobart W. Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor and Chief
General Surgery

Awards Presentation

Faculty

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Emily Huang, M.D.
Lucy Kornblith, M.D.
Rebecca Maine, M.D.
Carolyn Seib, M.D.
Matthew Swisher, M.D.
Joy Walker, M.D.
Stephen Waterford, M.D.
Gerald Cho, M.D.
Chetan Irwin, M.D.
Xiaoti Xu, M.D.

Mervyn F. Burke, M.D.

Mervyn F. Burke was born in Berkeley, California and attended Berkeley High School and UC Berkeley, graduating in 1950. While attending UCSF Medical School, he was greatly influenced in his third year by three surgical Chief Residents - Orland Davies, Jake Thorburn and Ed Kerr. He hoped to follow their footsteps in the UCSF General Surgery Residency Program. Dr. Burke was the 1954 recipient of the gold-headed cane, traditional symbol of "qualities most representative of the true physician" among medical students being graduated from UCSF.

After medical school, Dr. Burke was a rotating intern at San Francisco General Hospital. He then spent two years at a US Army Hospital in Germany. Returning to San Francisco in 1957, he began his surgical residency, finishing in 1962. He notes that the program was much different then, but he enjoyed every minute. Dr. Burke practiced for 40 years in Marin County. He continues to be grateful to UC Berkeley, UCSF, and particularly the Department of Surgery.

Suzanne Kerley, M.D.

Suzanne Kerley graduated from Stanford University in 1978 and returned home to St. Louis to attend Washington University Medical School. After medical school and internship, she was drawn back to California and started her residency in general surgery at UCSF in 1983. She recounts that Dr Paul Ebert took a leap of faith and accepted her in the general surgery program after her first year at UCSF. While in her research years with Dr Stephen Mathes, she was encouraged to fill a vacancy in the senior clinical year, spending four months at SFGH on the trauma rotation. She recalls that in those days, the residents fought over two pairs of "adjustable" loupes. Dr. Kerley completed her residency in General Surgery in 1987, followed by a Hand Fellowship in Los Angeles.

Dr. Kerley felt fortunate to have her mentors, Drs. Stephen Mathes and William Hoffman, accept her in the Plastic Surgery residency from 1988-1990. She perfected her skills with loupes during those years, spending countless hours in the OR with Drs. Mathes, Hoffman, Alpert, Buncke, Ousterhout and other outstanding surgeons. She remained on the UCSF faculty as a clinical professor, Chief of Hand Surgery, and then Chief of Plastic Surgery at SFGH until 1993.

Dr. Kerley is now the head of Plastic Surgery at the Santa Cruz division of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation. She has enjoyed 17 years in Santa Cruz area, where she resides with her husband and 10-year-old son. She notes that she uses her loupes daily in her practice. As Dr. Harry Buncke once told her on a day when she had neglected to bring her loupes, "Some day, everything will look better with loupes".

Bernard S. Alpert, M.D.

Bernard Alpert MD is Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at UCSF. He received his medical degree from SUNY Buffalo. He trained in general and plastic surgery at UCSF, and achieved the highest score in the United States on the plastic surgery board examination. He has been a medical and community leader since 1976, when he began his medical career at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco.

Dr. Alpert has made significant clinical inroads in the fields of microvascular surgery and breast reconstruction. He has authored over one hundred papers on various aspects of plastic surgery in peer reviewed journals.

Dr. Alpert received personal commendations from Mayor Art Agnos for his role in the relief effort after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, and from the Senate and Assembly of California for his role in Expedition Inspiration, a mountaineering effort that raised over two million dollars for breast cancer research. He has twice received the President's award of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, as well as its Humanitarian award, and the Trustee's award, the organization's highest honor. He served six years as an officer and director of the American Board of Plastic Surgery. As a volunteer surgeon for International Medical Corps, he was the first non-military US physician to enter Iraq as part of the humanitarian effort launched in April 2003. He returned to Iraq five times in an educational enterprise aimed at reintegrating all Iraqi physicians with their world colleagues. In 2001, as President of the Medical Board of California, Alpert was the architect of "California Physician Corps," a program that incentivizes physicians to practice in low income communities by offering medical school loan relief.

Linda Reilly, M.D.

Dr. Linda M. Reilly is Professor of Surgery and Director of the General Surgery Residency Program at UCSF. She received her medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in 1976. Dr. Reilly was the first woman to complete the surgical residency program at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She went on to pursue specialty training in vascular surgery at UCSF and remained at UCSF as a member of the faculty in vascular surgery.

Dr. Reilly has a particular interest in the management of infected vascular bypass grafts, endovascular aneurysm repair, complex aortic reconstruction and endoluminal treatment of vascular disease. The author of scores of publications, Dr. Reilly's research is focused on outcomes of the treatment of vascular disease.

Dr. Reilly has also been involved in surgical education for over 20 years. She is the program director for the UCSF General Surgery Residency Training Program. She has been a member of the UCSF Surgery Education Committee and, as the Program Director, now chairs that committee. She completed the ACS Surgeons as Educators Workshop. She has received 10 Excellence in Teaching awards from the UCSF surgery residents, including the Lim-Thomas Award (most outstanding teacher) 3 times. In addition she received an Excellence in Direct Teaching Award from the UCSF Academy of Medical Educators. On the national level, Dr. Reilly is a member of the Association for Surgical Education and is the current president of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery. She is also a member of SCORE (Surgical Council on Resident Education) and has participated in the work of that group establishing a standard curriculum for all surgery training programs. Dr. Reilly was a member of the Residency Review Committee for Surgery from 2002-2008 and chaired the Committee from 2007-08. Additionally, she was a member of the Society for Vascular Surgery Curriculum Committee that developed the revised curriculum for the new resident training pathways in vascular surgery.

Alden Harken, M.D.

Alden Harken graduated from Case Western Reserve Medical School in 1967 and completed surgical and pediatric cardiovascular surgical residencies at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Boston Children's Medical Center. After three years as an investigator at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, he joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1983, he accepted the position as Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Colorado's Health Sciences Center. After two enormously successful decades in Denver, he accepted his current position as Professor and Chairman of the University of California San Francisco – East Bay Department of Surgery. Dr. Harkens interest in and contributions to the field of cardiac electrophysiology began when as an Assistant Professor of Surgery he, along with Drs. Mark Josephson and Leonard Horowitz, performed the seminal work in mapping and surgical ablation for ventricular tachyarrhythmias. The fruits of this ground-breaking labor formed the cornerstone of our current understanding of the pathophysiology of ventricular tachycardia and have provided the basis for today's methods of ablative treatment of ischemic ventricular tachycardia. He was one of the early investigators in the implantation of implantable tachyarrhythmia devices and became one of the foremost experts in the surgical treatment of supraventricular tachyarrhythmias. Dr. Harken has authored 500 scientific publications, been awarded 10 NIH grants and has served as the Director of the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, a Regent of the American College of Surgeons and President of the Society of University Surgeons and the Association of Academic Surgery. Dr. Harken is a consummate teacher, educating generations of students, surgical residents and electrophysiology fellows in the pathophysiology and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias. He has been the recipient of teaching awards in every institution he has attended.

Douglas Ousterhout, M.D.

Dr. Douglas Ousterhout, a physician and a dentist, was the first American to be trained in Craniofacial Surgery with Dr. Paul Tessier in Paris after he finished his plastic surgery training at the University of Michigan and at Stanford.

Upon returning to California, he was involved in starting the Center for Craniofacial Anomalies at the University of California San Francisco in 1973. For twenty five years, he was the senior surgeon at the center. In 1986, he was promoted from a Clinical Instructor to a Clinical Professor. His research and publications were frequently directed towards improving the results, especially the long term aesthetic results, of children with craniofacial deformities.

He published a text in 1991 titled, "Aesthetic Contouring of the Craniofacial Skeleton". These craniofacial and maxillofacial techniques, and several new ones, were then used to pioneer a new field in plastic surgery – the feminization of the face in male to female transsexuals. Such feminizing surgeries, now completed in over 1200 patients from all parts of the world, have allowed the transgender patient to make a transition into a normal life being accepted and seen as a female. He is actively involved in extensive outreach and recovery programs for the transgender community. Dr. Ousterhout continues his practice at the Davies Campus of the California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco. He has recently published another book titled "Facial Feminization Surgery".

He is past president of the American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons and the Pan Pacific Surgical Association.

Maurice Galante, M.D.

Dr. Maurice Galante is a UCSF Professor Emeritus in the Department of Surgery. He is a native of the island of Rhodes. On February 20, 1919, Selma and Elio Galante welcomed their first son, Maurice. He developed into a voracious reader and was motivated by many biographies, he read about doctors and surgeons changing people's lives and making them feel better. Those stories made a lasting impression at a very early age: Maurice was inspired to go into medicine. Dr. Galante was educated in the USA receiving his M.D. with honors from Ohio State in 1944. He interned for one year at the Morrisanta City Hospital in New York. Moving to San Francisco he began his residency in General Surgery completing the training in 1952 with a brief interruption in the army. Dr. Galante has been described as "one of the last of a generation of real general surgeons who bring the same superb expertise to a variety of surgical procedures." He specialized in the complete knowledge for Head and Neck surgery; gynecological surgery, orthopedic surgery, Surgery of the Endocrine Glands and Gastro-intestinal surgery. In the operation room, he invariably was called the "Il Maestro" (the Master). The scores of residents he trained were the fortunate recipients of a course in medical ethics and attributes while learning surgical skills from a master. Dr. Galante developed a special relationship with his patients who invariably expressed their gratitude through donations to many programs in the Department of Surgery such as:

1. An annual General Surgeon Lecturer for the surgical profession and for the general public.
2. The establishment of the Distinguished Maurice Galante Chair for the appointment of a senior professor.
3. The funding of several research programs.

In addition to the awards that Dr. Galante has been honored with over the years he was decorated as "Commendatore della Repubblica Italiana" by the Consul General of Italy. This is a highly distinguished award given to selected individuals outstanding in literature, the economy, public service and social, philanthropic and humanitarian activities. Dr. Galante remains a hallmark in the Department of Surgery at UCSF.

Leigh Neumayer, M.D., M.S.

Leigh Neumayer MD received her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in 1985. She trained in general surgery at the UCSF and the University of Arizona in Tucson. She received a master's degree in clinical research design and statistical analysis from the University of Michigan. She joined the faculty of the University of Utah in 1992.

Currently Professor of Surgery, Dr Neumayer is a member of the multidisciplinary team treating breast cancer at Huntsman Cancer Institute.

She is also a member of the Imaging, Diagnostics, and Therapeutics Program and vice-chair of the Clinical Cancer Investigations Committee. She holds a Jon and Karen Huntsman Presidential Professorship in Cancer Research. She has extensive experience with skin-sparing mastectomy and sentinel lymph node biopsy.

Dr. Neumayer is an expert in clinical trial design and implementation. She participated in the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP) sentinel node trial and currently participates in the partial breast irradiation trial.

She has served as principal investigator on a randomized multicenter trial evaluating hernia repair, as well as other multicenter trials.

Dr. Neumayer also has a strong interest in educational research. Her extensive list of publications reflects her varied interests.

John Roberts, M.D.

Dr. John Roberts is currently Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Transplantation Division at UCSF. He received his BS degree from Stanford University in 1976 and his MD degree from UCSD in 1980. Dr. Roberts did his residency training at the University of Washington in Seattle. During his residency, he spent two years as a research fellow at Cornell University Medical College in New York. After completing his residency in 1986, Dr. Roberts did a fellowship in transplant surgery at the University of Minnesota. He joined the faculty at UCSF in 1988, and has been Chief of the Transplantation Division since 1999.

Dr. Roberts is an expert in liver and kidney transplant surgery for adults and children and has spearheaded an effort to expand "living donor" transplants, one of many efforts to make more donor organs available. He has won numerous awards, including teaching awards from the Department of Surgery's residents, and several National Institutes of Health grants for his research. He has published more than 190 papers on topics including allograft rejection, immunogenicity, immunosuppression and others. Dr. Roberts, who speaks nationally on transplant issues, is active in health policy regarding transplantation and is a member of several related professional and public service organizations. He is a fellow of the American Surgical Association and a member of many professional and honorary organizations.

Robert C. Lim, M.D.

In a place so full of gifted individuals, Dr. Bob Lim stands out as a very special member of the UCSF family. He first came to UCSF as a student in 1956. In addition to holding appointments in the UCSF School of Medicine and Dentistry since the late 1960's, he has held several ancillary positions, including staff surgeon at the VA in San Francisco, and the director of emergency department and chief of the vascular surgery service at SFGH. Since 1990, he worked at the Parnassus campus as a surgeon in the liver transplant unit, dedicating many hours to teaching students and residents. Dr. Lim has served on 56 university committees, published more than 100 articles and is a member of more than 25 professional associations. He was also President of the Pacific Coast Surgical Association.

Among his many accomplishments and appointments are Governor of the American College of Surgeons and member of the SF Mayor's Committee on Emergency Care. A decorated colonel in the US Army, Dr. Lim was chief of thoracic surgery at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, during the Gulf War from 1968 to 1989. His standing as a surgeon merited him a call to special duty whenever the US President visited San Francisco.

Robert Lim is a true gentleman, modest and giving, who has worked diligently to improve the lives of others. Even in retirement, his presence has continued to be felt at UCSF.