Welcome Class of 2025!

Upcoming Events

WoopWoop division of EM:RAP - Key Topics in Cardiology
Sept 1-2, 2021 (virtual)

CalACEP AdvancED - Sept 10, 2021, San Diego CA

ACEP Scientific Assembly - Oct 25-28, 2021 Boston, MA
ACEP Alumni Event - Tuesday October 26
The conference will feature a number of UCLA faculty and alumni, so if you are going be sure to check out lectures by: Jeff Tabas (1998), Luis Lovato (2001), Ilene Claudius (2002), Craig Goolsby (2008), Gil Shlamovitz (2007), Kareem Agunbiade our recent ultrasound fellow who won last year’s Drop the Mic competition, and an ACEP editor’s workshop as part of the Research Forum with Tyler Barrett (2005) and Richelle Cooper (1998).

For more information on the UCLA Residency Alumni Event keep any eye out for the email from Jennifer Cassidy.
First, I’d like to extend a warm welcome to our new PGY-1 class! Many of us have had a chance to meet and work with them during boot camp and in the ED. They’re a great bunch and we’re all excited to get to know them better.

I’m happy to say that we are fully emerging from the dark cloud of COVID! Very low prevalence in the state, the county, and the hospital. And lots of things are returning to normal—eating in restaurants, hanging out with vaccinated people without masks, real live conference in person, movies, concerts, and more. And our ED volume is back to normal (and unfortunately, so is our boarding).

I’ll start out the newsletter with some Goodbyes, some Welcomes, and a few other announcements. And as always, let’s thank Richelle Cooper (1998) for putting together yet another terrific newsletter to let you all know what has been happening around our department and residency program, and with the amazing alumni.

**Goodbye (and sorry to see you go!)**

Residency class of 2021 (please see the Graduation page)

Fellows Hannah Janeway, Kimon Ioannides, Kareem Agunbiade

Research coordinator Trisha Agarwal is off to medical school at the U of Colorado

Goodbye to Allison Ferreira (2018), and we wish her well at USC

**Welcome**

Stephen Villa came to us two years ago from UCSF, and is completing our Medical Education fellowship with a masters in Education. Stephen will join our faculty as the Medical Student Director, which is no small task since we will be rolling out our new Core Clerkship in EM for DGSOM later this year for all second year students.

Judy Choe joined us two years ago from NYP Columbia and Cornell, and is finishing up her Administrative fellowship, as well as an MBA. She will be taking on the role of Quality Director and Assistant Medical Director, and is already having a positive impact.

Britt Guest (2019) is finishing up her AIME fellowship (Access and Innovation in Medical Education) in conjunction with EM:RAP. She will be staying on with us, continuing her work with Mel Herbert (1995), teaching, and working clinically at RR, SM, and OV.

Liz Samuels will be joining us at Santa Monica. She attended Tufts Medical School, completed EM trained at Brown and then completed the National Clinician Scholars Program fellowship at Yale. She was most recently an Assistant Professor at Brown. She is a well-respected educator, has experience in advocacy, is an accomplished researcher having received numerous grant awards, and has social emergency medicine and ED treatment of opioid use disorder as areas of focus.

Hena Sihota is joining our research coordinator crew, after graduating from UCLA and our EMRA program.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Hendey (1993)
Chair, UCLA Emergency Medicine

*The UCLA DEM mission is to be a global leader in Emergency Medicine by:*

- Providing excellent care to all patients we serve
- Conducting leading-edge research that advances the health of our patients and community
- Training physicians to be innovative and inspiring leaders
Message from the Program Director Rebecca Bavolek

It’s hard to believe that it’s already time to start a new academic year at UCLA EM! To say that the past year and a half has been “challenging” seems like a huge understatement! COVID changed the landscape of everything that we do, and it forced us to be quite creative in the residency realm. Due to the commitment and creativity of the team, we were able to maintain quality education for the residency every week via a virtual platform with the added bonus that we could easily have alumni and guests “Zoom in” to educate the residents and faculty. It was great to have guests from all over the country, and we got to seem some familiar faces we haven’t seen in a while. But, after over a year of zooming, we were also having a bit of fatigue looking at all of those little black boxes on the screen every Tuesday morning. So, in June we were able to finally go back to in person conference. It was so refreshing to be able to see everyone face to face! In the new year, we realize that both formats have their advantages, and we will be going to a hybrid conference schedule with half in person and half remaining virtual.

Beyond conference, recruitment looked entirely different this year. Gone were the days of applicants flying across the country every week for interviews and backyard recruitment dinners, and we went to an entirely virtual process. UCLA EM was represented at virtual national and regional residency fairs and webinars, and we hosted multiple virtual events on our own. During the season, all interviews, tours, and socials were completely virtual. It was quite a change for all of us, but being flexible is one of the hallmark of emergency medicine and despite it looking completely different, it was very successful, and we recruited a diverse class of interns from across the country. We got to meet them a few short weeks ago at intern boot camp, and they have already fit right into their new UCLA EM family.

Finally, we recently bid farewell to the Class of 2021. After missing two Spring retreats and a Fall retreat, we were so thrilled to be able to celebrate this class together in person. We were sending them off to positions across the country into various positions including community positions, part time academics, and 2/3 of the class headed into fellowship training or full time academic appointments. We will miss them and we hope they will all come back to visit us soon!

What’s on the slate for the residency for the upcoming year? I think that “hybrid” will be our new normal. Virtual and in person formats for conference and recruitment going forward, but we look forward to picking up our old traditions like in person gatherings and retreats. It’s a whole new world out there, but I know that the residents and faculty are ready to tackle whatever comes our way!

Introducing “Matt” Matthew Hills:

We are so excited to welcome a new member to the UCLA EM Family! Over the summer, we had Matthew Hill join us as a temporary member of the residency coordinator team. He was such a great source of help, and despite only meeting us virtually, we were lucky to convert him to a permanent member of our team as an assistant residency coordinator. Now that he’s actually gotten a chance to meet us in person, we didn’t scare him off, and we are so happy to have him helping Jen, the residents, and the education leadership to keep the machinery of the residency running smoothly. Welcome again to Matt and looking forward to great years ahead!

Updates from Stephen Villa, our New Medical Student Clerkship Director

From a medical student education standpoint, we’re excited for the upcoming year. For our sub-I’s, we are thrilled that we’ll be able to host in person UCLA and visiting students! Last year, we were unable to do so and therefore created a “Virtual” Clerkship that was so well received, we have decided to host again for this upcoming academic year. This experience is different from a traditional experience but really highlights what makes our program truly special. Finally, and the biggest news, is that DGSOM is revamping its curriculum and has now made Emergency Medicine a core clerkship! While this will undoubtedly have challenges, it speaks to how rich our clinical environment has always been and is now being appreciated by everyone. Over the course of this upcoming academic year, we will slowly transition to having more students across several of our EDs within the UCLA health system.
Paul S. Auerbach, MD, MS, FACEP, MFAWM graduated from the UCLA Emergency Medicine Residency program in 1980 as part of our second class. He was a trailblazer who lived a life of service, exploration, and adventure. He was a Redlich Family Professor Emeritus in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine and Adjunct Professor of Military/Emergency Medicine at the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Previously, Dr. Auerbach was Chief of the Divisions of Emergency Medicine at Vanderbilt University and Stanford University. He was the leading authority on wilderness medicine, he essentially founded the subspecialty, and was a founder and past President of the Wilderness Medical Society (WMS).

Paul Auerbach provided disaster relief as a first responder to the earthquakes in Haiti (2010). His experience prompted him to create the Stanford Emergency Program for Emergency Response (SEMPER) to ensure that a team of Stanford physicians and nurses could rapidly assemble and deploy to disasters and humanitarian aid efforts. SEMPER has since provided aid and care to thousands around the world, including the earthquake in Nepal. He was most recently a visiting scholar at the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health.

Paul Auerbach was editor of the definitive medical textbook Wilderness Medicine, and author of many other books (Medicine for the Outdoors, Field Guide to Wilderness Medicine, Diving the Rainbow Reefs, Management Lessons from the E.R., and Enviromedics: The Impact of Climate Change on Human Health). He authored more than 70 peer-reviewed scientific publications, and wrote popular health pieces for magazines including Readers Digest, Field and Stream, The Wall Street Journal and others. He was editor emeritus of the journal Wilderness and Environmental Medicine, and served on the editorial board of many EM journals (including Annals of Emergency Medicine) during his career.

He served as national medical consultant on hazardous marine animals to the Divers Alert Network (DAN). He was a member of the National Medical Committee for the National Ski Patrol System. He was an elected member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He served on numerous SAEM and ACEP committees. He held 2 patents, "United States Patent 8,061,293 Avalanche rescue device", 2011 and "United States Patent 4,801,777 A device for microwave rewarming of blood products", 1989.

Paul Auerbach received awards from numerous organizations including but not limited to: Illustrated Medical Textbook of the Year, for Wilderness Medicine 7th ed; DAN/Rolex Diver of the Year; Beneath the Sea Diver of the Year; ACEP’s Hero of Emergency Medicine; ACEP’s Judith E. Tintinalli Award for Outstanding Contribution in Education; New Orleans Grand Isle (NOGI) Award for Science, The Academy of Underwater Arts and Sciences; WMS Founders Award; DAN America Award.

He was a well-respected educator who delivered invited presentations worldwide (see an example presentation on wilderness medicine High Altitude Sickness, HAPE and HACE and climate change lecture at ExponentialMed). To bring the field of wilderness medicine to life for students he guided the creation and development of Envision’s Emergency Medicine Simulation: When Care Is Hours Away. EMRA recently (February 2021) featured his work at the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health.

The accomplishments above are but a few of his contributions, given the countless fellows, residents and students he trained and inspired. He was a big personality, who did big things for EM. Some reflections from those who knew him:

Greg Hendey (1993) “Paul Auerbach was one of the reasons I went into emergency medicine, and he and Doug Lowery were two of the main reasons I came to UCLA. When I was a medical student at Vanderbilt, Paul was the chair. They didn’t have a residency program at the time. When I rotated through the ED and worked with Paul, I became interested in EM, and asked him where I should go for residency. He said I should go to the best program in the country, UCLA. He wrote one of my letters of recommendation. Doug Lowery fits into the story because he was 2 years ahead of me at Vanderbilt, so when I interviewed at UCLA, I met up with him, and he was doing so well, I wanted to follow that path.”

Craig Goolsby (2008) “He worked with us at Uniformed Services University (USU) quite a lot in recent years, becoming an Adjunct Professor in our department, and had been a great mentor to many military EM people. USU awarded him the “Outstanding Service” award in October, which is our highest civilian honor.”

“Maha” Swaminatha Mahadevan (1996) “Many see him as the Father of Wilderness Medicine. He was the first endowed faculty member in the Stanford ED. He touched many generations of attendings, junior faculty, and students, and had incredible academic energy.”

Jerry Hoffman (1979). “UCLA was one of the first major universities to establish an EM program, and we were blessed to train more than a few people who ultimately made major (outsized) contributions to our specialty. Paul — who was in our 2nd residency class — was certainly one of those people, as he became perhaps the single most recognized leader in the subspecialty of Wilderness Medicine.

He has left a long legacy in emergency medicine and wilderness medicine. We thank him for what he shared with all of us and we celebrate a rich and full life. He is survived by his wife, Sherry, and children Brian, Danny, and Lauren (currently an EM resident).
After an extensive national search process with several exceptional candidates, UCLA Health (got it right and were lucky to recruit) announced the appointment of Medell Briggs-Malonson, MD, MPH, MSHS to the position of Chief, Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (HEDI) for the entire UCLA Hospital & Clinic System. She had been serving in the interim role since September 1, 2020. While she was serving as the interim, inaugural chief she has already been leading several initiatives.

Medell’s vision and collaborative management is guiding the UCLA Hospital System implementation of a framework to advance health equity, diversity and inclusion. This will include providing transparent data, equity dashboards and indices, and accountability goals. She has been busy educating our faculty, residents and staff as well as teaching the other UCLA departments as well as the community and other organizations with several invited lectures. Medell moderated the Annual Dr Martin Luther King, Jr Health Symposium. The MLK symposium is dedicated to highlighting important topics and efforts to advance justice in health care. The symposium, “Confidence in Crisis-Strengthening medical trust within the Black community during the COVID-19 pandemic,” included lectures and Q and A. She was featured on a panel discussion of Racism in Medicine on a webinar Sundays with Verna, along with Dwayne Hall. (Verna Myers is a Harvard-trained lawyer and cultural change catalyst, and is VP Inclusion Strategy at Netflix). She also participated in a live webinar sponsored by the Social Justice Learning Network discussing medical racism and mistrust influencing confidence in the COVID-19 vaccine. She participated in an additional podcast sponsored by the California AHA chapter, #HeartoftheSouthland to discuss the need to get vaccinated.

Under her leadership there have been several health system events and initiatives including: Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust, Stop Asian Hate, a community COVID town hall en Espanol, cultural observances of LGBTQ Pride Month, Immigrant Heritage Month, the HEDI Idea Launchpad to solicit suggestions on training, culture and climate, community service and engagement, patient care, and workforce diversity, HEDI Department showcase to raise awareness and highlight the great HEDI work that is going on throughout the health system, and the UCLA Health Innovation Challenge Health Equity Pitch Contest. The HEDI office sponsored a viewing of the documentary Black Men in White Coats (and I strongly suggest you go to the organization’s website to learn and support their efforts). In addition the HEDI office sponsored a discussion for the community with several Lakers Legends to promote health and wellness.

On the anniversary of George Floyd’s murder, HEDI sponsored the UCLA Health Equity and Justice Action Series: Law Enforcement in the Health Care Setting. Dr Briggs-Malonson helped moderate and lead a panel and discussion of multiple providers including Ignacio Calles (2022), and law enforcement.

In June 2021, Medell volunteered with UCLA health, and other volunteers and generous donors who helped organize a special drive-through event in Inglewood. As part of Pull Up Neighbor’s tour, 1000 food boxes were handed out alongside special toys donated by Mattel, merchandise and bobbleheads from the Los Angeles Dodgers, PPE and more family gifts to support health and wellness in the community.
Wellness…

Yay to vaccines and some wellness - getting out to ski local and not so local, hike, rock climb, boating/water skiing, eating a meal at a restaurant, going to the beach, travel (lots of people getting to vacation not just staycation, and Hawaii has been very popular), celebrate life events, see family and friends we have not seen in more than a year, spend time with our furry pet family members, get in some crafting (Hannah Spungen is a master quilter)…. Yes to all of that and to the class of 2024 having some time off together following end of internship. Plus some UCLA EM sponsored wellness events, including getting in shape at Barry’s bootcamp! Well deserved R & R.

UCLA Wellness Events

February

Feb 17th @ 6 pm: Happy Hour & Zoom Movie Night

Feb 1st @ 8-11 pm: Virtual Happy Hour

Feb 4th @ 6-8 pm: Virtual Yoga Class

Feb 11th @ 6-8 pm: Virtual Happy Hour

Feb 18th @ 6-8 pm: Virtual Yoga Class

Feb 25th @ 6-8 pm: Virtual Happy Hour

March

Mar 1st @ 6 pm: Online Cooking Class

Mar 8th @ 6 pm: Online Mixology Class

Mar 15th @ 6 pm: Online Wine Tasting
We are used to hearing and seeing about Jo Feldman’s trips to Antarctica, and the residents who have been lucky enough to take elective time to help on those missions. Alas with covid-19 there was no visit with penguins this year. However, did you know Jo Feldman does some work with SpaceX and their training missions?

She was at Cape Canaveral for the last SpaceX launch of the Crew-2 team on April 23rd. Then returned and joined a training mission to Mount Rainier, and this is how it went:

The training mission to Mount Rainier was with the next astronauts scheduled to launch to space. The mission is called Inspiration4. Inspiration4 is a planned SpaceX Crew Dragon mission to low Earth orbit. Billionaire Jared Isaacman is footing the bill and chose 3 strangers to join him. Inspiration4 will be the first crewed space mission to fly with only private citizens on board. The goal of the mission is to raise $200 million for St Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

With short notice to join the mission, Natasha Wheaton covered Jo’s night shift and Jo returned with some SpaceX swag for Natasha’s boys.

From there a quick whirlwind Thursday 4/29 Jo flew to Las Vegas to meet the team for dinner and spent the night at the MGM Grand.

Friday 4/30 she flew in Jared’s private jet to Seattle, shopped for food and last minute outdoor gear, drove to Ashford for an orientation with RMI (Rainier Mountaineering, Inc), and slept at Nisqualy Lodge.

Sat 5/1 the group drove to Rainier National Park, hiked in the clouds, on snow, 4.5 miles up, with 4,800 foot elevation gain with RMI guides, I4 crew, I4 support team, Jo Feldman and mountaineering legend Ed Viesturs. They spent the next two nights at Camp Muir.

Sunday 5/2 the group spent the morning hiking on a glacier to a crevasse, where they were all lowered into the crevasse, hung out there and then had the option to use ice axes to climb out or get pulled out, afterwards. Jared, Ed and others summited Mt Rainier (another 4000 feet higher) while the rest of the group enjoyed the sunny day. They summited and returned by 10pm.

Monday 5/3 The group hiked down, drove to the lodge, showered, packed, ate lunch with everyone and then drove to the airport (this time flying home commercially).

It was a successful training mission. Except for Jared the remainder of the I4 crew had never done anything like this. It was challenging but they all pushed through and made it. Other than handing out some pain medication Jo Feldman had nothing to do (not a bad assignment as the EM doctor for the training mission).

Emergency medicine allows us to do some incredible things that we get to call work.
Feb 3, 2021 was National Women Physicians Day, the 200th birthday of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell who was allowed to attend medical school as a joke and became the first woman in America to earn her medical degree. We also honor the legacy of Dr. Rebecca Crumpler, the first black female physician in the US. A big shout out to all of the UCLA EM residency women and alumna! Celebrating All of You on National Women Physicians Day
Since our inception, 196 women have graduated the residency program and/or are part of our current program as residents, fellows and faculty. On National Women Physicians Day we celebrate all of you - your contributions to the excellence of this program; we thank the trailblazing women who came before us; we celebrate everyone’s extraordinary accomplishments in your careers and acknowledge the impact you have made on the lives of your patients, colleagues and loved ones. Cheers!

In memoriam, Carol Bryant (class of 1981) Assistant Director, Emergency Medical Services, Downey Regional Medical Center, mother and wife passed away unexpectedly in 2002.

Apologies to the alumna for whom I did not have a photo, or only had older residency photo to include.
WoopWoop Trauma Fundamentals

April 2021 - Britt Guest (2019), second year AIME fellow and CMO of WoopWoop and Mel Herbert (1995) put together a great two-day virtual conference, Trauma Fundamentals. If you did not watch live (and 2 days is a lot of zoom at once), you can watch them on demand. The conference included several UCLA faculty and Alumni:

- Mel Herbert (1995) *Spinal Trauma*
- Ilene Claudius (2002) *Pediatric Trauma*
- Britt Guest (2019) *Trauma in Pregnancy, Consult Corner Ophthalmology, Procedure: Pericardiocentesis*
- Greg Hendey (1993) *Major Dislocations*
- Craig Goolsby (2008) *Stop the Bleed*
- Sanjay Arora (2005) and Mike Menchine (2004) *EMA Literature Review*
- Kellie Kitamura (2019) *Anticoagulation Reversal Agents*
- Steven Lai (2016) *GU Trauma*
- Sara Crager (2015) *Hemorrhagic Shock*

There were more than 6000 attendees from at least 30 countries, and 37+ states in the USA. An amazing number of attendees on the live stream from around the world (impressive given the time difference) including: Australia, Belgium, Canada (every province), Costa Rica, Chile, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Kingdom, of course the USA, and Vanuatu.

Prior to the conference, Mel and Britt asked EM:RAP viewers to send questions and there are videos from around the world, including in our workspace - Sima Sadeghinejad (2024) and Lizzie Ferreira (2022). Anna Yap (2022) helped moderate the chat and provided assistance on conference day one at the studio, and Ignacio “Nacho” Calles (2022) took over on day two. What’s next? Per CMO Britt Guest, Cardiology Fundamentals coming in September 2021, and a live in person conference at the UCLA Luskin Center April 2022. Mark your calendars.
Well, last year CORD was in New York and coincided with the start of the COVID-19, peak. This year was less eventful travel since it was virtual and our education faculty, fellows, as well as residents, and residency coordinator were featured in many sessions. CORD runs multiple simultaneous tracks during its annual academic assembly - Best Practices (BP), Navigating the Academic Waters (NAW), Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine (CDEM), Emergency Medicine Association of Residency Coordinators (EMARC), MedTed track, New Programs & Leaders track (NPL), Resident track, Medical Education Research Certificate Program (MERC) workshops, and the Clinical Pathologic Case Competition (CPC).

**Rebecca Bavolek** was Track Chair for the Best Practices. (Per Andy Grock: Bavs put out approximately 1,2005125125,203w523513251 fires to keep the conference running (this count was based on AG's review of slack conversations and are likely an undercount)

**Stephen Lai (2016) and Kellie Kitamura (2019)** - “Reimagining the Traditional Case Conference”

**Andy Grock** - Resident Track co-speaker, Workshop Breakout “Slide Design”; Moderator; “Reflections on Wellness”; BP panel speaker, “Residency and Faculty Disasters: Lessons Learned from Personal Experience”; Research Skills 360 - Managing the Flood: How to Navigate and Curate Quality Free Open Access Medical Education RES012; Virtual Clerkship 460 - Making Lemonade: Virtual EM Clerkships in the Time of Covid (panel with Stephen Villa, Natasha Wheaton, and others)

**Andy Grock and Natasha Wheaton** - NAW co-speaker “How to Motivate and Lead a Team - the FoEM and ALiEM AIR experiences”


**Jen Cassidy** - EMARC course, “Ensuring Program Sustainability if Management Changes in a Pandemic”

**Jaime Jordan** - BP co-panel speaker “Permission to Fail: Moving Past Educational Mishaps”; NAW co-speaker, “Publish Like a Pro! How to Maximize the Chances of Getting your Manuscript Accepted”; Education Research Consults

**CORD 2021 Academic Assembly Research Abstracts**


- Grock A. Student Led Teaching.


- Wheaton N, Grock A, Villa S, Calles I. Bridging the Gap: Incorporating an Interactive Student-led Teaching Session into a Virtual Clerkship.


**CPC Competition:**

**Claudie Bolduc (2021)** tried to stump a faculty presenter with her case “Ptosis; what’s the diagnosis?”

Education fellow **Max Berger** was given a case to dissect “A Second Wave of Problems - Fishing for Answers”
Meet the 2021-2022 Chief Residents

**Nacho Calles** is from Houston, Texas. A non-traditional student, he never attended high school, obtained a GED, and matriculated through Houston Community College to a university to complete his degree before moving to New York City for medical school. In New York he developed a passion for equity, diversity, and inclusion and spearheaded several efforts at NYU School of Medicine targeting underrepresented applicants including mentorship, community building, fundraising, and advocacy. As a chief resident he plans to continue his mission of recruiting diverse classes, supporting them through thoughtful mentorship, and teaching everyone to dance salsa. There are rumors that he will trade dance lessons for journal club attendance.

**Alex Daguanno** was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, and pursued his pre-medical studies in nearby Ann Arbor. After a short stint as an ER scribe in Detroit, he ventured down south to Atlanta for medical school, where he spent most of his time eating fried chicken and drinking sweet tea. Narrowly escaping diabetes, he moved to LA where he now spends most of his time in the ER or on the beach. As chief resident, Alex will focus on the recruitment of a diverse and energetic intern class. Alex plans to stay in Los Angeles after graduation and will begin his search for local community jobs this fall. He loves education and plans to incorporate his passion for teaching into his future career.

**Jimmy Murphy** is originally from New Jersey, then spent college and medical school circling the tri-state area before coming to LA for residency because it’s warm, and beautiful, and people are nice here! In the short term his life is mainly The Schedule, and longer term it will be critical care, because he loves bringing order from chaos and hates sleep. Please don’t get too mad at him when you work weekends and nights, the budget just didn’t allow for him to clone enough residents to cover those shifts for everyone.

In (north)West Philadelphia born and raised, **Ashley Vuong** hasn’t moved into a large Bel Air mansion but is very happy living in sunny LA after spending her whole life in Pennsylvania. After studying at Penn State University for her undergraduate degree, she then went back to Philly and went to medical school at Temple University School of Medicine. She decided to move to the West Coast for the amazing weather and even more amazing people and now spends most of her time obsessing over her dog. As a chief resident and in her future career, Ashley’s goal is to continue to promote diversity in our residency program and medicine, and to continue to work and focus on education promoting health equity and the social determinants of health in emergency medicine.

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**Residency Committee Updates**

**Equity Diversity & Inclusion Committee** - The first part of the year the committee helped with recruitment events. Several members participated in SNMA and LNMA events in March and April 2021.

**Social Media Committee** - We have a new group of residents taking to the keyboard for our social media efforts - Michelle Brennan (2022), Alex Daguanno (2022), AJ Jackanich (2024), and Tiglath Ziyeh (2024).

**Wellness Committee** - Multiple people (residents and faculty leads) have volunteered to organize a number of group activities. As of newsletter printing there are 28 different groups proposed with multiple members in each including: Hiking Club, Climbing Club, Beach Volleyball, Surfing, Book Club, Wine Club, Beer Club, Cocktail Club, Dog Crew, Baby Crew, Chess Club, Gym/Fitness, Dinner Party, Golf, Road Biking, Mountain Biking, Board Games, Foreign Language, Yoga, Running, Rollerblading, Beach Crew, Tennis, Skiing, Basketball, Soccer, Movies, Arts & Crafts. Definitely something for everyone.
Another virtual conference (sigh), but hoping that we are continuing to make progress and can plan to see people at ACEP in Boston in October 2021 and SAEM in New Orleans in 2022.

There were a number of UCLA residents, fellows and faculty who contributed to the educational program at virtual SAEM 2021. The IDHEAL faculty (which includes members from across the UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Ronald Reagan Medical Center, Greater Los Angeles VA, and Harbor-UCLA) were key members of two of the pre-conference workshops held May 11, the SAEM Consensus Conference and an Advanced Advocacy Workshop, as well as presenters of many didactics and abstracts. The Residency Educational Leadership Team were also very well represented with a number of abstract presentations. While we did not get to see alumni in person, we caught many abstracts and work from our residency and fellowship programs. Congratulations everyone on a successful conference and good luck getting the publications of the work presented.

**Advanced EM Workshop:** UCLA Research Fellow Annette Dekker, second year IDHEAL Fellow Hannah Janeway, IDHEAL faculty Dennis Hsieh, alumni Shamsher Samra (2017), former UCLA NCSP Hemal Kanzaria, and recently moved to Los Angeles and joining us at Santa Monica UCLA Elizabeth Samuels helped lead the “Physician Advocacy Boot Camp: Creating Change Beyond the Emergency Department”

**SAEM Consensus Conference:** From Bedside to Policy: Advancing Social Emergency Medicine and Population Health Through Research, Collaboration, and Education. The virtual consensus conference occurred in sessions over three days. The first two days involved 3 breakout domains with working groups developing research priorities, based on literature searches and an iterative revisions informed by interactive brainstorming sessions, feedback from community partners, and two rounds of survey data from conference attendees. The 3 domains for consensus building involved many leaders from IDHEAL including Hannah Janeway, Annette Dekker, and NCSP fellow Anna Darby for the working group Race and Antiracism, Breena Taira, former research fellow Todd Schneberk, and IDHEAL faculty and Greater Los Angeles VA faculty Kian Preston-Suni for Structural Competency Education, and Richelle Cooper (1998) for the ED Social Needs Screening and Intervention. On the final May 11th session there were 5 different zoom rooms with moderated works in progress (5-7 per room), and many of our program representatives and alumni served a moderating role including Breena Taira, Hannah Janeway, former UCLA NCSP Shaw Natsumi, Hemal Kanzaria, Shamsher Samra (2017), and IDHEAL faculty Kian Preston-Suni, Dennis Hsieh, Mohsen Saidinejad. In addition, Annette Dekker presented her work in progress, “Acuity of 911 Calls from ICE Detention Centers.”

**Didactic Lecture:**
- Breena Taira, Shamsher Samra (2017), Dennis Hsieh, Kian Preston-Suni - “Social Justice and Health Equity: Creating a Social Emergency Medicine Section/Division”
- Jaime Jordan - “Adulthood: Transitioning to Life after Residency;” “Resurrecting the Resident Researcher: Addressing Barriers to Engaging Residents in Emergency Medicine Research,” “Getting your Work out there! How to get Published in Medical Education,” “Qualitative Research: the Power of Listening,” “An Overview of Qualitative Research,” and “Qualitative Research Designs” for the ARMED MEEd meeting.
- Shamsher Samra (2017) and Hannah Janeway - “Law Enforcement in the ED: An Overview of Relevant Considerations, Laws and Policies”
- Annette Dekker, Elizabeth Samuels et al “Circle Up for Equity in Crisis Care: Restorative Justice in Crisis Standards of Care”
- Hannah Janeway - “Evidence-Based Emergency Care for Transgender and Gender Diverse Children, Adolescents and Adults”
- Dennis Hsieh - “Screening and Addressing Food Insecurity in the Emergency Department”

Incoming new Santa Monica UCLA physician Elizabeth Samuels - “Use of Long-Acting Buprenorphine: Learning from the National Institutes of Health” and “Using Simulation for Transgender Medical Education in Emergency Medicine Residency”

Congratulations also to Harbor-UCLA IDHEAL faculty members, Kabir Yadav and Mohsen Saidinejad who delivered other didactics and panels as well as former research fellow alumni Marc Probst.

**Ignite Lectures:** IGNITE! is a fast-paced speaking competition at the SAEM Annual Meeting. Each IGNITE talk is 5 minutes in length with 20 automatically advancing slides. This TED style talk is designed to be highly energetic, captivating, and engaging.
- Education Fellow Max Berger - “Ignite!: What I Learned as a Patient in My Own Emergency Department”
- Alumni Josh Baugh (2019) “Ignite!: Yoga Can’t Save Us All”
Abstracts: Congratulations faculty, residents, alumni and IDHEAL members from the West LA VA on their ePosters and oral abstracts!

- Forsgren E, McCollough M, Taira BR. Perspectives on Emergency Department Initiation of Medication Assisted Treatment for Alcohol Use Disorder.
- Zhao L, Grock A. Systematic Online Academic Resource Review: Endocrine, Metabolism, and Nutrition.

- Kanzaria H, et al. Frequent use of the emergency department and incarceration: Understanding the association.
- Rodriguez R. Cluster analysis of high users of medical, behavioral health, and social services in San Francisco.
- Probst M. Performing interviews with clinicians regarding emergency shared decision-making.
- Jessica Oswald. Efficacy of bedside nerve block for acute and chronic pain performed in the emergency department.
- Charles Pozner. Professional fulfillment and well-being among emergency department providers during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Bolger SJ. A cost-effective, reusable pericardiocentesis simulation model with an interchangeable model heart and chest wall.
- Bolger SJ, et al. Improve intubation efficacy of contaminated airway using suction-assisted laryngoscopy assisted decontamination.

Innovations: Innovations is a venue for members to present novel ideas and approaches to undergraduate and graduate medical education as well as other areas such as faculty development and operations.
- Natasha Wheaton - “Foundations III: A shared, open access emergency medicine senior resident curriculum.”
- Stephen Villa, Natasha Wheaton et al. - “Bridge to emergency medicine: A virtual medical student curriculum for flipped classroom learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.”
The IDHEAL faculty and fellows continue to lead many initiatives to provide better care for the community and patients. There are of course many research endeavors as noted in prior pages, as well as advocacy, education, scientific presentations and publications you will see throughout the pages of this newsletter.

Language Services Expansion at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center

Breena Taira helped secure funding and approval for in-person interpreters for Spanish language, given the overwhelming needs in the ED. This is part of an overall DHS plan, and has been an area of focus for equity that Breena has fought for, for many years. There are openings for 10 new hires and will eventually lead to 24-hour coverage. The first two are on-boarded and have already become valuable members of the OV team.

There is a video upgrade for the other interpreter services needed to overcome the barriers and issues with the prior resources, including American sign language. Luis Lovato (2001) as CMIO has been instrumental in helping secure this.

IDHEAL fellow Jesus Torres and Breena Taira, with the support of DIO Dr. Pam Dyne (1995), are working on a pilot bilingual testing and certification for Olive View residents.

Cell Phone Program at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center

We now have assistance from Assurance wireless (a California Lifeline program—“the Obama phone program”), during business hours M-F 8a-4pm, at two of the Olive View-UCLA hospital entrances. This program serves individuals with limited resources that do not have cell phones, by providing them a phone and service at no cost to increase their ability to access care.

Food Insecurity Initiatives

Even before the pandemic there were issues of food insecurity in Los Angeles, and Olive View primary care was universally screening patients.

A quick screen (pilot study) in the Olive View-UCLA ED showed huge numbers of food insecurity in the ED waiting room, almost 50%, much higher than primary care clinics (may be different patients vs pandemic exacerbation).

Through a DPH-DHS Collaborative CalFresh Healthy Living grant, the Los Angeles County is setting up several free produce distribution initiatives at county clinics. The first event at Olive View was Thursday June 17th and provided free produce to OV patients and community members who could walk up or drive through. The events will be the third Thursday of every month and are also made possible through partnership with LA Regional Food Bank and the Valley Community Care Consortium.

Trauma Recovery Center

Henry Kim and Breena Taira received $1.8 million in funding from the California Victims Compensation Board (CalVCB) to create a Trauma Recovery Center (TRC) at Olive View-UCLA. We are collaborating with Tom Lee, Malkeet Gupta (2006), and Eileen Shu (a former undergraduate UCLA Emergency Medicine Research Associate volunteer) at Antelope Valley Hospital. The TRC will provide free mental health services and wrap around case management to victims of crime in SPA 1 and 2 (San Fernando and Antelope Valleys). This expands the efforts across DHS, and parallels the work that Shamsher Samra (2017) is doing at Harbor-UCLA.
Ultrasound Section Updates

The Ultrasound Section, now with a combined fellowship across the UCLA Department Residency Programs has a new twitter page @UCLAcus to showcase their collaborative educational and research efforts. Program-wise, this is the first year that we've combined our fellowship with Harbor-UCLA and the VA. Our two-year fellowship recruited our first fellow, Erica Kiemele, from LAC+USC. (You heard about her and the other incoming fellows in the prior newsletter).

Alan Chiem was the featured discussant for the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) journal club discussing the article from our ultrasound division - Chiem AT, Shibata J, Lim G, Liu YT. Pick Up Your Probes: A Call for Clinically Oriented Point-of-Care Ultrasound Research in COVID-19.

Jackie Shibata participated in an ACEP Ultrasound Section Panel Discussion “Changes In the Learning Environment in the COVID & post-COVID world”

Ultrasound fellow Kareem Agunbiade and Education Fellow Max Berger designed and implemented a curriculum for an ultrasound guided IV training for the Greater Los Angeles VA emergency medicine nurses and technicians.

Alan Chiem completed his first year as a DGSOM Educator for Excellence, which included teaching PBL for two Blocks, as well as leading a Doctoring 1 group. In addition, he is leading the development of a longitudinal POCUS curriculum that spans all four years of medical school. The curriculum will include both peer education, faculty training, and various asynchronous and active learning components.

Jackie Shibata and Kareem Agunbiade made it to the final round in the UCLA 2021 Cross-Campus Healthcare Innovation Challenge for their proposed POCUS training service for street providers treating homeless patients in Los Angeles.

On the research front, the group finished enrollment of their POCUS-Integrated Observational Study (PIOS) of patients admitted with COVID-19. There were four sites—Olive View-UCLA, RR-UCLA, SUNY Downstate, and Temple University--that enrolled a total of 240 patients. In the study they performed over 800 serial lung and cardiac ultrasounds in order to predict complications such as myocarditis, ARDS, PE, and pneumothorax. They are currently in the chart abstraction and data analysis phase.

The group’s Patient PLUS study (“Feasibility of patient-performed lung ultrasound exams (Patient PLUS) a novel telemedicine approach in heart failure”) which assessed the feasibility of patients with CHF to perform their own lung ultrasound as a potential telemedicine approach to reducing HF admissions, was accepted by the European Society of Cardiology’s Heart Failure journal! This is the first study published of patient-performed ultrasound. A couple of groups--including a UPenn study sponsored by Aetna--are looking into providing HF patients with handheld ultrasounds for serial monitoring of pulmonary congestion and whether it can avert ED visits and hospitalizations.

Jackie Shibata is taking the lead in developing a similar longitudinal study with cardiology at Olive View-UCLA.
Rob “Lucky (as Greg Hendey used to call him)” Rodriguez (1994), Professor of EM (and critical care) at UCSF, zoomed into conference Feb 9th to talk about the Effects of Covid-19 on Frontline Providers and discuss his experience in critical care including his travel to work back in Texas.

**Caleb Canders (2016)** presented a most interesting case of a young woman who presented with vertigo and hyper salivation and had a carotid artery dissection with involvement of the intracranial portion… Do you give tPA?

**Mike Merjanian (2019)** presented a most interesting case of neonatal lethargy after a septic work and transfer to a hospital with a pediatric ward… ultimate diagnosis methamphetamine withdrawal/washout.

**Tabitha Cheng (2018)** presented a most interesting case of a BRUE, who had a repeat serious event in the ED and resuscitation.

We had a special Alumni Conference May 2021 - a number of fantastic lectures, and we even had some alumna (the amazing Vena Ricketts) zoom in to the program:


**Steve Go (1994)**, Professor of EM at UKMC, put on his star trek costume to teach about death telling. Yes, the connection is obvious and everyone was impressed.

**Carmen Wolfe (2015)** Assistant Professor of EM at Vanderbilt delivered a talk on EKG interpretation of blocks, hemiblocks and why they sometimes matter. It is one of a series of EKG lectures she gives, so we need to get her back to hear more.

**Sarah Medeiros (2014)** Assistant Professor of EM at UCDavis and co-creator of the EM Pulse podcast lectured on human trafficking.

A special thanks to the alumni who have helped to teach at foundations - Scott Votey (1987), Lisa Zhao (2011), Miguel Lemus (2011), Sabrina Tom (2015). Also thanks to alumni Cate Yaggi (2020) dropping in to discuss the things that are bigger in Texas and what she has seen after completing residency.

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**Educational Outtakes and Zoom Visiting Alumni Lecturers**

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**Another Great EMS Day at the PreHospital Care Training Center**

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**ALUMNI -** Come teach at our conferences: email Richelle Cooper (1998), and I will connect you with the educational program leadership.
Family Updates - Congratulations to Everyone!

Jamil Bell is a new dad! He and Annabelle welcomed Eiliane Noelle.

Ryan Kunitake (2021) and Jen got married in an intimate ceremony at Muir Woods, just north of San Francisco.

Agatha Brzezinski (2023) and Chris got married.

Alumni Updates

Amir Tabibnia and his wife welcomed home their first child, daughter Ayla.

Steff Brenman (2017) and wife Liz added baby Holden to their family.

Eric Schallert (2017) and his wife Kristin added baby Ava to their family.

Jason Lu (2019) and Bonnie got married and honeymooned (another thank you for COVID vaccines).


Sabrina Tom (2015) and Rick, and big sister Madeline (“Lennie”) are thrilled to add Ethan to their family.

We had a celebration for the graduating residents and fellows of 2021 who will forever be part of our UCLA family. Luckily with covid restrictions lifted we were able to celebrate in person. Residency graduation is the culmination of so many years of school, dedication and hard work by these amazing individuals, and the many teachers from elementary school and beyond that contributed to their education. It is also an important time to reflect and to thank the patients and loved ones of patients who graciously teach us every day in the ED. Becoming an emergency physician would not have been possible without the support of family, friends, and work colleagues who have been with the residents throughout their journey, so we were pleased that with things opening up the graduates could bring loved ones and family members to the event. We are all so excited to see the great things to come as they begin their career as emergency physicians and join our alumni family.

The one thing that was great last year during COVID-19 that we kept were the individual graduate tribute slide shows with faculty mentor presentations and picture reels for each member of the class. A big shout out to Rebecca Bavolek, the program leadership, and faculty mentors for these exceptional “Graduate of the Day” videos.

At this time of year we always want to give a very special thank you to the chief residents - Tom Akie, Nate Friedman, Caroline Humphreys, and Daniel Ichwan for all of their hard work and contributions to their class and the residency program. All of them are going on to fellowship to share their talents.

We also celebrate our 6 graduating fellows, and 5 of them are going to be staying in Los Angeles and part of our residency program.

Thanks to all of the faculty contributions, the support of the Antelope Valley Emergency Medicine partners for the residency and graduation, and the organization and hosting by the program director, associate program directors and the residency coordinators who planned the spectacular celebration. Thanks to Gravely Disabled for the serenade.

Theresa Cheng received the Marshall T Morgan Humanism Award. This award goes to the resident who has embodied the qualities that were so admired in Dr. Morgan, who showed humanism in caring for his patients in the emergency department, and was a champion for the underserved fighting against inequalities in the community.
Where are the Class of 2021 going?

Thomas Akie - University of Massachusetts Research Fellowship

Danielle Antonuk - Palliative Care Fellowship at UCLA

Jessa Baker - Ultrasound Fellowship at UCI

Claudie Bolduc - Kaiser Permanente San Diego and Hollywood Presbyterian

Theresa Cheng - Skadden Arps Fellowship and working/teaching clinically at San Francisco General

Ryan Dollbaum - Wilderness and Environmental Fellowship at University of Colorado

Nathan Friedman - Toxicology Fellowship at UCSD

Cameron Harrison - Critical Care Fellowship at Stanford Medical Center

Caroline Humphreys - Medical Education Fellowship at UCLA-Olive View

Daniel Ichwan - Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship at Rady Children’s Hospital in San Diego at UCSD

Ryan Kunitake - Santa Clara Valley Medical Center

Matthew Levin - Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park and Adventist White Memorial Hospital

Naseem Moridzadeh - NYU Langone Medical Center

Jason Singer - Cedars Sinai Medical Center

Kevin Wroblewski - Arcadia Methodist, Kaiser Panorama City, and California Hospital

Congratulations to the Graduating Fellows of 2020

Education Fellow Stephen Villa will be joining our faculty group at UCLA and continuing his amazing contributions to our education program, as our new Medical Student Clerkship Director. A busy job with more expected rotations in the earlier years of medical school.

Ultrasound Fellow Kareem Agunbiade will be working at Olive View UCLA, the Greater Los Angeles VA, and Kaiser Permanente Downey. He plans to continue in his pursuit of academic endeavors and work for Global Health in West and North Africa.

IDHEAL Fellow Hannah Janeway will be continue to be part of IDHEAL and UCLA as she will be working at the Greater Los Angeles VA and Adventist White Memorial.

NCSP Fellow Kimon Ioannides will be a new faculty at UCSF Fresno.

AIME Fellow Britt Guest will be staying on at UCLA as an Assistant Clinical Professor, and will continue to work with EMRAP and as CMO for EMRAP’s WoopWoop Conference Company and EM:RAP GO Faculty.

Administrative Fellow Judy Choe will be staying as the UCLA Department Director of Quality.

Fellows continuing for their second year include - NCSP Fellow Anna Darby, IDHEAL/NCSP Fellow Jesus Torres, Education Fellow Max Berger, and Research Fellow Annette Dekker.
Recruitment for 2021 was not like any other, and match day was virtual as well, but thankfully medical school graduation started to return to normalcy. Rebecca Bavolek, Pam Dyne (1995), Steven Lai (2016), Natasha Wheaton, Jaime Jordan and Kellie Kitamura (2019) not only kept conference on track during interview season, they managed to process an extraordinary number of applications and interview many applicants. Check out the infographic. This effort could not have been possible without the resident recruitment committee, diversity and inclusion committee and social committee resident members including Daniel Ichwan (2021), Ashley Vuong (2022), Lizzie Ferreira (2022), Haig Aintabliam (2022), Michelle Brennan (2022), Taylor James (2024), Alex Daguanno (2022), Jimmy Murphy (2022), Chase Richard (2023), Nacho Calles (2022), Claudie Bolduc (2021), Anna Yap (2022), along with all of the residents and faculty who attended the virtual recruitment socials. And it cannot go without saying, special recognition for Jennifer Cassidy and Matt Hill for all the efforts to make this process seamless for the applicants and those in the program interviewing (all while still serving all of our current residents and helping faculty), and for coordinating and sending welcome packages to the incoming class. Do you remember your match day? Here we caught some of the class on match day and graduation day. We helped welcome them when they arrived with some more residency swag, and then one of the class members, Elle Kettler, one-upped us by providing all of her classmates with scrub caps embroidered with their names.
**Meet the Intern Class of 2025**

**Name: Daniela “Dani” Ines Alarcón**

**Undergraduate School:** Indiana University of Pennsylvania

**Medical School:** University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

*Before Intern year you can find me:* Hiking and running the trails in Pittsburgh parks, cooking up a storm in the kitchen, reading a book in a hammock on my porch on a rainy day, and generally soaking up as much sun as possible.

*My hidden talent is:* baking the best, flakiest pie crust from scratch.

*When not in the hospital I’m most likely:* on the beach, at a farmer’s market, enjoying a cocktail at a swanky bar, or eating at a new restaurant.

*The greatest meal I ever had was:* Too many incredible meals to count! Ask me about this if you’re bored, I could talk about my top 5 meals for hours.

*If I knew I could not fail I would:* Open my own free medical clinic for Latinx folk

*I could not live without my:* my water bottle because I drink at least 2-4 liters per day

*I’m really looking forward to:* finally seeing the sun more days than not when I am in Los Angeles!

**Name: Christopher Briones**

**Undergraduate School:** UC Berkeley

**Graduate School:** Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

**Medical School:** Tulane University School of Medicine

*Before Intern year you can find me:* backpacking, fishing, or long-boarding at the beach.

*My hidden talent is:* writing.

*When not in the hospital I’m most likely:* looking for somewhere to dance.

*The greatest meal I ever had was:* khao soi in Chiang Mai.

*I’m really looking forward to:* exploring rooftop bars when I am in Los Angeles!

**Name: Melissa “Missy” Brown**

**Undergraduate School:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Graduate School:** UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

**Medical School:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

*Before Intern year you can find me:* Hiking with my dog, doing pottery, spending time with (vaccinated) friends and family, and trying to understand finance.

*My hidden talent is:* Beating people at Connect Four (it’s kind of like a stress test for friendships).

*When not in the hospital I’m most likely:* Outside with my dog, cooking, or spending time with friends.

*If I knew I could not fail I would:* Reform the US health care system

*I could not live without my:* Awesome support system

*I’m really looking forward to:* eating some great food, hiking, and spending time at the beach when I am in Los Angeles!
Meet the Intern Class of 2025

Name: Neil Gandhi
Undergraduate School: UC San Diego
Graduate School: Stanford Graduate School of Business
Medical School: Stanford University School of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: Chilling poolside listening to deep house tunes.
My hidden talent is: I can do a British and Aussie accent
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: driving along PCH, playing tennis, traveling (pre-COVID)
The greatest meal I ever had was: Amazing chicken and garlic bread at a hole-in-the-wall restaurant called Galetos in Rio de Janeiro. Could have been the company or the hunger, but could have kept eating there for hours.
I could not live without my: Headphones and speakers to blast some beats.
I'm really looking forward to hitting up all the good food, car spotting on Rodeo drive, and spending time with family when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Ellen “Elle” Kettler
Undergraduate School: Stanford
Medical School: UCSD School of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: camping.
My hidden talent is: crafting! I sew, crochet, knit, and needlepoint.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: hiking with my dog or playing boardgames.
The greatest meal I ever had was: Tinto in Philadelphia.
If I knew I could not fail I would: go on the show Making It! It's a craft competition hosted by Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman.
I could not live without my: sleep mask with headphones.
I'm really looking forward to hanging out with my co-residents when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Christian Hernandez
Undergraduate School: University of Wisconsin, Madison
Medical School: Medical College of Wisconsin
Before Intern year you can find me: Accomplishing a few fitness challenges (i.e. 100 mile challenge, and 1000lb club), teaching about living healthy lifestyles, and teaching a high school class.
My hidden talent is: Bachata & salsa dancing!!
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: Learning what it means to be a Angeleno, exploring the craft scene, finding out where I can grow some plants and where the best food is.
The greatest meal I ever had was: Pasteles Puertorriqueños, pernil, y arroz con gandules.
If I knew I could not fail I would: Become a FIFA World Cup soccer player or Reggeatonero
I could not live without my: Mother.
I'm really looking forward to the food, weather and diversity of people when I am in Los Angeles!
Meet the Intern Class of 2025

Name: Kenneth Taeyoung Kim (I actually prefer "Kenneth" over "Ken" or "Kenny")
Undergraduate School: Brown University
Medical School: UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: at home - learning languages (Korean, Spanish, and Japanese), watching anime, and playing (virtual, for now) board games with friends.

My hidden talent is: I can beatbox! And I bake some killer homemade bagels.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: asleep.

The greatest meal I ever had was: 10 x $1 tacos at Ave 26 Tacos (in Glendale!)

If I knew I could not fail I would: write for a medical comedy, aka Scrubs 2.0

I could not live without my: girlfriend(’s dog) [Their names are Naomi and Moku!]

I'm really looking forward to the Korean food, the Mexican food, and the food (disambiguation) when I am in Los Angeles!

If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: Learning Latin in High School was the Worst Trade Deal in the History Of Trade Deals.

Name: Rhea Matthew
Undergraduate School: UCLA
Graduate School: UCSF Global Health Sciences
Medical School: Drexel University College of Medicine

My hidden talent is: Being able to fall asleep anywhere and anytime. Jet lag is not a thing. Circadian rhythm who?

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: exercising or baking some type of dessert. Balance.

If I knew I could not fail I would: Go wingsuiting!

I could not live without my: Ember mug. I need my coffee to be constantly at 145 degrees. If it’s not scalding my esophagus I don’t want it.

I'm really looking forward to making new friends, exploring the unique neighborhoods, and eating delicious food when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Rick Knecht
Undergraduate School: Utah Valley University
Medical School: University of Utah School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: sleeping in, hiking, traveling, playing golf or drinking beer.

My hidden talent is: operating at a high level on almost no sleep.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: exploring something new.

The greatest meal I ever had was: a 7 course dinner in Rome.

If I knew I could not fail I would: become a soccer player, or a golfer, or a professional ski bum

I could not live without my: passport, or 4 Runner;

I'm really looking forward to all of the great food when I am in Los Angeles!

If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: Why did the chicken cross the road? Who cares? Vote Rick.
Meet the Intern Class of 2025

Name: **Kevin Mauerman**

*Undergraduate School:* University of Arizona  
*Medical School:* University of Arizona College of Medicine-Tuscon

My hidden talent is: identifying birds.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: climbing, cooking, or playing board games.

The greatest meal I ever had was: fresh venison in Window Rock, AZ.

If I knew I could not fail I would: audition to be on the next season of Survivor.

I could not live without my: flip flops.

I'm really looking forward to going to Knott's Berry Farm when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: **Miguel Navarro**

*Undergraduate School:* Elmhurst College  
*Medical School:* University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Before Intern year you can find me: Playing soccer, spending time with loved ones, reading random facts and day trading.

My hidden talent is: Drawing.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: Eating and playing chess.

I could not live without my: Inner peace.

I'm really looking forward to try new food, explore, and make new friends when I am in Los Angeles!

If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: “Unidos”

Name: **Drew Robinett**

*Undergraduate School:* Yale University  
*Medical School:* UCSF School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: Playing Mario Kart, hosting board game nights, and cruising through Netflix with my UCSF roommate (a future UCLA IM intern!)

My hidden talent is: I've never had a brain freeze.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: roping my friends into activities like escape rooms, themed bars, mini golf, etc.

The greatest meal I ever had was: Thanksgiving at my Great Grandma’s House (Turkey, twice baked mashed potatoes, scalloped corn... Yum).

If I knew I could not fail I would: lead the Sacramento Kings back to NBA relevance as the star center (...I'm 6’ nothing on a good day).

I could not live without my: growing collection of miniature crystal figurines... but also my amazing friends and family!

I'm really looking forward to chillaxing by the pool/beach/other body of water in the beautiful sunshine when I am in Los Angeles!
Name: Torrence (not Torrance) Tran

Undergraduate School: UC Berkeley

Graduate School: Tulane University A.B. Freeman School of Business

Medical School: Tulane University School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: Visiting my friends and family somewhere across the country (Oakland, SF, NYC, New Orleans, Denver, Salt Lake City, Orlando, and Charlotte).

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: Searching for the best fried chicken, tacos, kbbq, sushi, or pho that LA has to offer. Please send recs!

The greatest meal I ever had was: Beef noodle soup from a little shack on the side of the road in Thailand.

If I knew I could not fail I would: Invent a novel technology, license out the patents, earn passive income, and travel the world.

I could not live without my: Hot sauces, chili peppers.

I’m really looking forward to ALL THE GREAT FOOD AND CULTURE when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Cristina Villalpando, “Cristy”

Undergraduate School: UCLA

Graduate School: UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Master in Public Policy (MPP)

Medical School: UCLA DGSOM

Before Intern year you can find me: hanging out with my niece Natalia, camping in Redwood National Park, lounging at the beach.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: visiting family, sharing a meal with friends, running at the beach.

The greatest meal I ever had was: my mom’s chilaquiles.

I could not live without: working out.

If I knew I could not fail I would: complete the Pacific Crest Trail.

Name: Ariel Wu

Undergraduate School: Stony Brook University

Medical School: Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University

Before Intern year you can find me: Hiking and Airbnb-ing around the Pacific Northwest, trying and failing to make latte art, and taking the Coast Starline Train down to my new home!

My hidden talent is: I can harmonize on the spot.

When not in the hospital I’m most likely: curled up on the couch at home with tea and a book, doing the New York Times crossword, or quibbling with my husband over the definitions of words.

If I knew I could not fail I would: start my dream business, which is a part laundromat, part café, part free book exchange called Breakwater.

I’m really looking forward to finding the best tacos, getting my tan back, and joining a community-supported agriculture (CSA) subscription when I am in Los Angeles!
Bootcamp and Intern Orientation

Well, let’s just say that the start of this academic year is looking more normal than last year. The class of 2025 interns showed up to start after Los Angeles COVID-19 restrictions were removed, and we definitely are making up for the lack of gatherings from last year. The program leadership team including Rebecca Bavolek, Steven Lai (2016), Natasha Wheaton, Jaime Jordan, Kellie Kitamura (2019), completing education fellow Stephen Villa, second year education fellow Max Berger and new fellow Caroline Humphreys (2021), and chief residents Ashley Vuong, Nacho Calles, Alex Daguanos and Jimmy Murphy coordinated, taught and supported the group through on boarding, sent them on scavenger hunts at the two sites, and provided a number of seminars to set them up for success. Several other residents (Anna Yap (2022), David Haase (2022), Haig Aintablian (2022)), faculty members from UCLA, Olive View-UCLA, and Antelope Valley ((Mark Morocco (2001), Cat Weaver (2017), Scott Lundberg (2004), Breena Taira, Sara Crager (2015), Alan Chiem, Jackie Shibata, Britt Guest (2019), Amir Rouhani, Larry Stock, Travis Deuson, Atilla Uner (1997), Greg Hendey (1993), Vanessa Franco (2017), Medell Briggs-Malonson) along with our UCLA Ancillary staff (Central Information Manager Donald Chow, Child Life Clarissa Byrd, Case Managers Yomi Richardson and Eun Kim, and Social Work Whitnii Patterson) taught, each of the other resident classes hosted individual socials to get to know the class and help them get to know us, and they explored some of LA and a Dodger’s game.
Congratulations to **Breena Taira** for being selected as the recipient of the inaugural Academy for Women in Academic Emergency Medicine (AWAEM) Social Medicine Advocacy Award. The award “is to honor a female faculty who has made significant contributions towards social justice and advocacy on behalf of our patients or community within emergency medicine. Advocacy can be broadly conceptualized and can include legislative and political action, service, grassroots organizing, and any other advocacy work that directly benefits our patients, community, or specialty.” To all that know the contributions Breena has made to the medical school, our program, the Olive View UCLA Medical Center, the EM community, and the underserved individuals she advocates for, this award comes as no surprise, it seemed to be created with her in mind.

Congratulations to **Bill Mower** (1990), **David Talan** (1996), **Greg Moran** (1992), **Rob Rodriguez** (1994), Olive View Researcher Program Coordinator **Anusha Krishnadasan** and the entire ID net group involved in the CDC grant #ProjectCOVERED! The publications have generated a lot of discussion including an AEM Podcast and a Brown Emergency Medicine blog post featuring co-investigator Walt Schrading. There have also been several news broadcasts, and news articles highlighting some of the research findings, including an interview with Dave Talan discussing the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines among health care workers.

Additional congratulations to **David Talan**, **Greg Moran**, as well as Nick Mohr at University of Iowa and the entire PReventing Emerging Infections through Vaccine EffectiveNess Testing (PREVENT) study team. The observational study conducted on the EMERGEncy ID NET, measured the comparative effectiveness of available COVID-19 vaccines by assessing health care personnel who develop symptoms of COVID-19 in 16 academic US medical centers. The start of the PREVENT study generated a lot of press - City News Service, LA Weekly, LAist, KABC-AM, KNX-AM and My News LA, reported the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA received a $4.9 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to study the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines among health care workers. Project COVERED and PREVENT overall resulted in $19,340,930 in grant money from the CDC. Lead PI **David Talan** (1986), was quoted in some of the coverage. NBCLosAngeles.com and Antelope Valley Times syndicated the City News story. The results of the study are highlighted in the May 14, 2021 MMWR. The press release quotes CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH: “This report provided the most compelling information to date that COVID-19 vaccines were performing as expected in the real world...This study, added to the many studies that preceded it, was pivotal to CDC changing its recommendations for those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.”

KUDOS to Our Amazing Faculty, Fellows, Residents and Alumni
Congratulations to **Breena Taira**, as well as co-authors **Vanessa Kreger (2020)**, **Arie Orue**, and **Lisa Diamond** for their publication in JGIM examining Google Translate of ED discharge instructions. Not a surprise but an important warning for us as providers that Google Translate is not reliable enough for medical instructions. Breena continues to be a leading expert on language justice advocating for better patient processes and outcomes with her research in this area. Breena and co-author Lisa Diamond were interviewed about the work for a podcast episode of the Verge.

**More Kudos**

Congratulations to **Lynne McCullough (1998)** and **Frank Day (1999)** for being named a top EM doctor in Los Angeles Magazine!

Congratulations to **David Haase (2022)** and former ultrasound fellow (now part-time Olive View UCLA attending) **Amir Tabibnia** for their ACEP now case publication “Using Ultrasound to Diagnose Patient with Bilateral, Atraumatic Hand Pain.”

**Daniel Ichwan (2021)** and **Stephen Villa** published two on-line articles on ALiEM. EMRad: Radiologic Approach to the Pediatric Traumatic Elbow X-ray” and “EMRad: Can’t Miss Pediatric Elbow Injuries.”

**Jessa Baker (2021)** published a case report, “A Hyperthermic Death from the Diet Pill DNP.” in ACEP now, with her dad, an EM physician in Hawaii as co-author. (How cool is that!)

**Chase Richard (2023)** is implementing a new quality improvement that will bring the Ceribell Rapid EEG device to the UCLA ED. The device can detect nonconvulsive status epilepticus, which often goes unrecognized in altered patients. The collaboration between ED and Neurology will hopefully expedite patient disposition, improve patient care, and explore how AI algorithms can assist with treatment decisions.

The UCLA EM residency band **GRAVELY DISABLED** missed performing at the retreat and sent a video direct to the residents.
The UCLA Ronald Reagan | Olive View Faculty Teaching Award recognizes exemplary involvement in resident education, both at the bedside and through participation in didactic sessions. The faculty who received the most resident votes for the 2020-2021 UCLA/Olive View Faculty Teaching Award were:

For the first half to the year:

Daniel Weingrow at UCLA & Carmen Partida at OV-UCLA

For the second half of the year:

Michael Levine at UCLA & Kellie Kitamura at OV-UCLA

Congratulations to these amazing teachers!

The awardees for the 2021 UCLA Ronald Reagan-Olive View Emergency Medicine Residency Medical Student Teaching Awards are:

Class of 2021 - Daniel Ichwan (a repeat winner 3 years in a row) and Naseem Moridzadeh

Class of 2022 - Alexander Daguanno (a repeat winner 2 years in a row) Ignacio Calles and Genie Como

Jaime Jordan received the Impact Award from the Foundations of Emergency Medicine for exemplary contributions towards their mission of creating educational innovation with lasting impact within the specialty of emergency medicine.

The 2020-2021 Bannister Award leaders awarded by the UCLA Stroke Neurology QI team included: Ignacio Calles (2022) for fastest Door-to-Needle time, and to Jason Singer (2021) for the fastest Door-to-Skin time. These are targeted metrics in the National and AHA Stroke Target Door-to-Needle goals.

The Golden Olive Teaching Award would typically be presented at the Annual spring retreat. These awards are voted on by the residents for the contributions to teaching.

The award for the full time faculty went to Kellie Kitamura (2019). Rookie of the Year!

The award for the part time faculty went to Carmen Partida.

Rebecca Bavolek and Natasha Wheaton are the “Specialty ACEs” for EM. This is a new role within the David Geffen School of Medicine, where they are the Advisors for Career Exploration (ACE) helping to advise and mentor students considering EM and connect them with other mentors in our department. Congratulations to both of them for the appointment, and a huge THANK YOU from all of us as they are great representatives and role models for EM and our Department.

Incoming intern, Christian Hernandez (2025) received the President's Award for Community Engagement from the Medical College of Wisconsin. We are excited for the energy and commitment he brings as we continue to grow our efforts in this area.

Kudos to our amazing resident educators! Each year at retreat the medical student clerkship director presents an award to the residents who receive the most positive mentions and comments from our medical student sub-interns rotation evaluations. These awards represent excellence in teaching. The residents are all truly resident was nominated at least once, a testament to the quality of education we provide across the board in our EDs!

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**U ACT** is an Advocacy Collaborative started in January 2020 at UCLA as a vehicle for physicians at all levels of training and across disciplines to marshal our energies as agents of change. The group is composed of UCLA residents, fellows, and faculty members from multiple specialties who share a desire to improve advocacy education and opportunities for trainees. They conduct activities that help connect and coordinate residents and faculty across disciplines, educate and empower residents to become effective advocates, and raise awareness of advocacy efforts on specific issues. The unifying principle is the commitment to addressing structural inequities and barriers to equitable care for our patients.

Ashley Vuong (2022) is one of the core resident members of U ACT. The U ACT collaborative has a number of opportunities for providers to get involved and volunteer, connecting you with vaccination volunteering, street medicine endeavors, the UCLA mobile clinic, and more.

This year the collaborative recognized deserving providers with awards. There were 6 resident awards, one per specialty, and Anna Yap (2022) was selected. She was the “most nominated” person of all the awardees with several different mentors and co-residents submitting her name for consideration.

Given there was only one award per specialty the committee made a point to recognize a handful of others with honorable mentions, including two more EM residents, Theresa Cheng (2021) and Chase Richard (2023). More mentions than any other specialty.

**Pam Dyne (1995)** completed a 6-month training program to become a certified life and weight loss coach with The Life Coach School. She is in the process of completing an additional 6 months of advanced applied coaching training that will end in September. She chose to pursue this training because she wants to help medical trainees (students and residents) and faculty physicians to be able to get out of their own way in achieving the lives and careers of their dreams, and to prevent and treat burnout. She is part of a cohort of similarly minded physician life coaches who coach groups of students, residents, and faculty physicians across the country in these areas. She is building out a coaching program as part of her new Director of Faculty Development role for our Department at UCLA and also for CORD. Details on those projects to follow!

**Ethan Forsgren (2023) and Maureen McCollough (1994)** launched an alcohol use disorder (AUD) project at Olive View UCLA, which offers naltrexone to patients with AUD, and includes a new order set, treatment pathway, and website ovmcbridge.org. Ethan gave an oral presentation on the AUD research he has been working on with Breena Taira and some UCLA medical students at SAEM. Maureen McCollough, Kenneth Pettersen (Internal Medicine) and Ethan Forsgren were awarded the California Primary Care and Emergency Medicine Residency Collaborative Grant ($62k) to advance Substance Use Disorder Education and Treatment.

And Now for Something Completely Different…. In addition to being chief at Olive View-UCLA, and co-leading the EMERGency ID Net, and other academic endeavors Greg Moran (1992) and his wife now routinely foster animals (puppies and kittens typically). Many will remember the puppiepalooza at the last Palm Springs retreat. The Moran family has expanded their fostering to a couple aposomatic and crepuscular creatures. (They also have their own 5 cats and 2 dogs. A full house.)
Research fellow Annette Dekker and IDHEAL fellow Hannah Janeway are the new co-chairs of the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine’s Social Emergency Medicine and Population Health Interest Group.

Annette Dekker and several IDHEAL members Dennis Hsieh, Todd Schneberk, Shamsher Samra (2017) + others put together an Immigration Advocacy Toolkit for the ED as part of the SAEM social EM advocacy

Matt Waxman (2007) transitioned from medical director of NYCMedics Global Disaster Relief to consultant and project manager at International Medical Corps (IMC). He served as a subject matter expert on the International Medical Corps World Health Organization Emergency Medical Team Certification process. He finished his role in a $3.2 million dollar grant for Trauma and Emergency Medicine Systems Capacity Development in Aden, Yemen as an implementing partner with WHO / NYCMedics Global Disaster Relief.

As part of his role with IMC he takes call as a Medical Director providing real time remote oversight for Kedren, one of the largest COVID-19 vaccination sites in Southern California, in downtown LA IMC implements with a grant from the state of CA, County and other sources.

He also joined the Board of Directors of the Drugs Diagnostics for Tropical Diseases (DDTH).

Finally, Matt has also been volunteering and providing care at the non-profit organization Hannah Janeway co-founded RHA (Refugee Health Alliance) in Tijuana. He will be joining the Board of the organization to continue that work.

Natasha Wheaton is the Director of the UCLA Base Camp, and key developer in the new curricular design that has been ongoing in recent years and being implemented with this year’s incoming class of medical students.

The medical school has a web page that provides an overview of all the new changes including videos describing each component. Base Camp is the new 4-week orientation to medical school course, the pre-matriculation activity to prepare first year medical students for the pre-clerkship curricular components (i.e. Early Authentic Clinical Experience / Foundations of Science / Foundations of Practice). Components of base camp include but are not limited to: Social Determinants of Health, Ethics/Professionalism, Basic/Introductory Clinical skills, and Essential Basic Science concepts.

Britt Guest (2019) is still constantly updating and republishing the EM:RAP CorePendium COVID book chapter (a book in itself really) that is currently translated into 8 different languages.

She is busy planning the "Key Topics in Emergency Cardiology" virtual conference for this September 1-2.

Ultrasound Fellow Kareem Agunbiade, and faculty Jackie Shibata, Matt Waxman (2007) and Harbor UCLA’s Teresa Liu put on a 2-day ultrasound course at the medical school in Tijuana for migrant health providers in conjunction with Refugee Health Alliance, PrevenCasa, and OIM Mexico. Matt’s son Jacob helped out as model educator.
In addition to the WoopWoop Trauma Fundamentals course, SAEM, and CORD, lots of grand rounds...


Michael Levine - Western Toxicology Fellows Conference, “Toxicity of Covid Treatments,” grand rounds at University of Vermont Department of Emergency Medicine “Toxicologic Causes of Metabolic Acidosis,” grand rounds at Hackensack Medical Center, “Drug Abuse Patient in the Emergency Department”

Carolyn Sachs (1994) - grand rounds UCLA Dental School “Intimate Partner Violence”

Kareem Agunbiade - grand rounds Greater Los Angeles VA Dept of Medicine, “The Powers & Perils of Privilege”

Britt Guest (2019) - grand rounds Indian Health Services in Gallup, NM “Trauma in Pregnancy”

Andy Grock - grand rounds at Kings County Emergency Medicine, “Medical Decision Making in Acute Coronary Syndrome: Past, Present, and Future.”

David Talan (1986) holds "the record" for most live attended session (20,000 worldwide) for the first EM:RAP on Covid last year. He gave grand rounds at Florida Atlantic University Schmidt Department of Emergency Medicine “What I’ve Learned Studying Infectious Diseases in Emergency Medicine,” and was the keynote Speaker at the Wisconsin ACEP Chapter Annual meeting, “What I’ve Learned Studying Infectious Diseases in Emergency Medicine.” He delivered grand rounds to the UCLA Department of Surgery to tell the surgeons how to manage appendicitis, “Non-Operative Treatment of Appendicitis and The CODA Trial.”

Sara Crager (2015) gave grand rounds at: Johns Hopkins Department of Emergency Medicine “Rethinking Respiratory Failure,” University of Massachusetts Department of Emergency Medicine “Rethinking Respiratory Failure,” University of Utah Department of Emergency Medicine “Reimagining Shock,” University of Vermont Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine “Reimagining Shock,” and the Mount Sinai Medical center Department of Emergency Medicine “Hemodynamic Management of Unstable Pulmonary Embolism.” In addition she has delivered several video casts on EM:RAP “Vents 201 Series”, and “COVID Intubation Triggers.” She also lectured at several national and international conferences on critical care topics.

Sara Crager (2015) was a featured speaker at a number of international conferences. She presented “Reimagining Shock,” at the Bring Me Back to Life: Le Show Montreal. The conference focuses on the skills and knowledge needed to bring your critically ill patients back to life, with cutting-edge topics and a world-class EM and Critical Care faculty. The show was broadcast LIVE from Quebec city on June 9th, 2021. She also lectured virtually at the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians Annual conference, presenting “Massive Hemorrhage.”

Michael Levine lectured at the American College of Medical Toxicology’s Total Tox Course February 2021 - “Don’t touch that! Marine, arthropod, and reptile envenomations.”


She was also a featured speaker at the 27th AAEM Annual Scientific Assembly as a plenary speaker, “Agitation in the Pediatric Emergency Department.” She additionally lectured on “Injuries of Pediatric Inflicted Trauma,” and participated in a “Literature Review Pro/Con Debate and Q & A.”
Dong Yao (2023) presented his project “Epic Canto for RME of Emergency Department Patients” at the 8th Annual UCLA Health Resident Informaticist Project Virtual Symposium. The UCLA Resident Informaticist Program was developed to train residents and fellows in the field of Clinical Informatics, allowing physician trainees to gain the knowledge and skills required to apply health information technology toward improving patient care through the Electronic Health Record.

Dong’s project was selected as one of two winners (among 25 projects) at the Annual Project Symposium. Projects were evaluated on Creativity & Innovation, Content/Presentation Delivery, Demonstrated Impact, and Completion Level by a panel composed of Health IT and health system senior leadership (Including Johnese Spisso, president of UCLA Health and CEO of the UCLA Hospital System).

Our informaticists Frank Day (1999) and Jamie Bell provide mentorship and guidance for the projects.

Charlene Gaw (2024) was selected to join the resident informatics program for the coming year.

Allison Ferreira (2018) has several projects examining ECPR and ECMO on outcomes at UCLA and contributing to the ECMOCARD critical care consortium COVID19 project.

She has authored/co-authored a couple chapters in an upcoming textbook on ECMO:


Jason Singer (2021) completed the UCLA Biodesign Innovation Fellowship track June 2021. He worked on two multidisciplinary teams this year. Both were finalists in the UCLA Anderson School of Business Easton Healthcare Business Plan competition. One concept revolves around asymmetric lung ventilation where the ventilator is able to independently change parameters for the left and right lungs to account for asymmetric pathology. The other is a concept for a platform for families of loved ones with dementia to access training modules to learn how to care for their family member with dementia and also seek expert advice via video visits and chat. The teams presented at the June UCLA Biodesign Fellows - Fast pitch event. The live session showcases the UCLA Biodesign teams highlighting their innovation efforts. The event is supported by the UCLA Biodesign Program leadership, alongside UCLA Biodesign Advisory Committee members, Johnese Spisso, President of UCLA Health and CEO of UCLA Hospitals and Clinics, Antonio Bernardo PhD, Dean of UCLA Anderson School of Management, Kelsey Martin, MD, PhD, Dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Stephen Smale, PhD, Distinguished Professor & Vice Dean for Research of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. The UCLA community, supporters and the public were welcome to join via zoom and vote for their favorite HealthTech solution.

Slma Sadeghinejad (2024), and David Haase (2022) are working with Alan Chiem on an ultrasound study evaluating medical student learning. They are exploring how teaching in person compares to teleguidance (remote teaching) using the butterfly.

Haig Aintablian (2021) participated in a number of live chat mentorship sessions including for the UCLA Pre-Med Community, and the Armenian Pre-Health Society.

Well Done!

Allison Ferreira (2018)
Anna Yap (2022) continues to do the work of many people all while being an excellent clinician and contributor to our program.

She testified at the AMA, helping to pass important policy on Vaccines, Voluntourism, protecting residents, researching private equity in GME, and health equity in medicine. She was quoted in an article for MedPage today.

She was re-elected to the LA County Medical Association Board as Alternate Resident Board Member.

Anna is spotlighted in a Vaccine Video with LACMA Partners, Meals on Wheels and the LA Department of Public Health to Launch WeVax+LA. They are working on distribution, but here’s the Video

Anna has also helped to develop an organization of physicians for #ThisIsOurShot, a campaign focused on activating healthcare heroes to tell their stories and get others to be vaccinated!

Her work on this is highlighted in an article in The Daily Bruin.

And, she was also on a LA Football Club billboard promoting getting vaccinated!

Stephen Villa was named to the EDI committee for the Foundations Curriculum.


Tom Graham (1995) has taken over as the RRUCLA Physician QA/QI Committee Chair.

Theresa Cheng (2021) was invited to give a talk at Columbia Law School on COVID and the Immigration Crisis.

Congratulations to Chase Richard (2023) and Reza Hessabi (2024) who were elected to serve on the new UCLA Health Minority Housestaff Organization (MHO) Executive Board.

Haig Aintablian (2022) continues his work with AAEM on the AAEM/RSA Board of Directors. He has been advocating for physicians by contributing to the EM Physician Taskforce - Future EM Physician Workforce. In his spare time he dreams of NASA and space (and takes some spectacular photos).


Atilla Uner (1994) not only continues to work at AV hospital as one of the partner’s in the group and at UCLA, he finds time to contribute to numerous organizations.

He was recently voted Chair of the California EMS Authority’s Commission on EMS (last year he was was Vice Chair).

He has also accepted a position as the Pacific Region Medical Director for Global Medical Response (GMR). GMR was formed when American Medical Response (AMR), REACH Air, Guardian Flight and multiple other ground and air ambulance companies across the country merged. The Pacific Region covers California, Hawaii, and a small part of Oregon, and has about a quarter of GMR’s 38,000 employees.

Bravo!

IDHEAL fellow Hannah Janeway was featured in the UCLA Global Health Program Newsletter. They were interviewed about their work as cofounder of the Refugee Health Alliance at the US-Mexico border.

Hannah also provided medical care at Carmen Serdan shelter filling out medical passports and providing medications for the first 25 MPP (Migrant Protection Protocols) asylum seekers in February 2021. While the Biden administration has changed some policies, there are still several issues at the border with detention and many people suffering. Listen to this podcast for the Journal of Ethics featuring Hannah and their work with the Refugee Health Alliance, “Ethics Talk: Refugee Care and Border Abolition.”

Los Angeles Times

Op-Ed: A Trump-era pandemic policy is undermining public health at the border. Biden must end it
By PSYCHE CALDERON, HANNAH JANEWAY AND RONICA MUKERJEE

Hannah and their colleagues and cofounders of the nonprofit Refugee Health Alliance published an Op-Ed in the Los Angeles Times to raise awareness of the humanitarian crisis created by Trump era deportations leaving families stranded on the Mexico side of the border.

You can look to past newsletters for more information on RHA or visit the website: https://www.refugeehealthalliance.org. For those looking to volunteer there are great opportunities to be involved.

Dr. Sam Dubal was a friend and colleague to many of the members of IDHEAL. After his tragic passing last fall, Shamsher Samra (2017) and Hannah completed the paper Beyond Border Health that they had been working on with him. It is a tremendous tribute to Sam’s memory that they were able to compete this collaboration and ensure that these ideas will be accessible to future thinkers in migrant health.
In the Media....

Swaminatha Mahadevan “Maha” (1996) travelled to India for several weeks to assist during their COVID-19 surge this spring. He has been on numerous newscasts as well, including PBS Newshour.

Matt Waxman (2007) continues to provide commentary, expertise and guidance on local Fox11 news with Hal Eisner.

Haig Aintablian (2022) has been featured in numerous broadcasts, including local Los Angeles kcal 9 news on the covid-19 surge and hospital capacity, a Jan 2021 Good Day LA segment about the importance of getting vaccinated, and a Jan 2021 CNN piece about the winter surge of cases. March 2021 he was featured on Horizon TV raising awareness in the Armenian community of depression and importance of talking about and seeking help for mental health. He was featured in a video for the City of Glendale for the Armenian Genocide Commemoration. He recorded a public service message in Armenian for the City of Glendale to dispel myths and encourage COVID vaccination. June 2021 he was featured in a BBC live news broadcast to discuss the reopening/removal of restrictions in California.

Matt Waxman (2007) continues to provide commentary, expertise and guidance on local Fox11 news with Hal Eisner.

Tarak Trivedi, former UCLA National Clinician Scholar Fellow, was interviewed by Business Insider on the dangers of e-scooters from the research he and David Schriger completed. The story was syndicated by MSN.

Claudie Bolduc (2021) was interviewed on Global Edmonton News about Canadian envy of American reopening (given the US has vaccinated a much larger percentage of its population than our North American neighbors).

Claudie was also featured on a SiriusXM Doctor Radio session with Dr. Mark Siegel on vaccine hesitancy in May 2021.

Mark Morocco (2001) was interviewed on BBC1 discussing President Joe Biden’s speech about vaccine eligibility and distribution. Dr. Morocco also commented in a Patch story on the lack of evidence showing that a sanitizing machine could “kill COVID.”

Parveen Parmar (2008) was featured in a USC news article about emergency medicine and her advocacy for human rights.

Joseph Chan (2015) was featured on KABC7 local eyewitness news in Los Angeles about travel safety as we started to open up.

Armand Dorian (2003) continues to be on multiple news outlets giving COVID-19 updates, including on EXTRA tv.

Anthony Cardillo (2006) remains a nightly news contributor on KABC7 news answering viewer and anchor questions.
As the COVID-19 vaccines became available, the public health department called out to providers to volunteer and help with the efforts. Several faculty and alumni volunteered at some of the mass vaccination sites. Mel Herbert (1995) volunteered at Cal State University at Northridge and Angelique Campen (2000) provided doses at The Forum, former home of the Lakers and the Dodgers. Jake Lentz (2019) and Carmen Partida volunteered at the Forum, and Carmen also volunteered at other mass vaccination sites.

UCLA Health and DHS both solicited providers to help provide intake exams and care for the many unaccompanied migrant children who have crossed the border in recent months. These exams and care facilitate these children reuniting with family in the USA or with a host family. Theresa Cheng (2021) and Claudie Bolduc (2021) both volunteered and met some incredibly strong children, many who traveled thousands of miles fleeing life-threatening situations at home.

Carlo Reyes (2003) and his nonprofit Health-e-Charity held several “Breathe for India” fundraisers to help provide money to assist India during their COVID-19 surge. Health-e-Charity and Health-e-MedRecord have partnered for the launch of Bodhi, mentioned in the last newsletter. Whereas telehealth platforms traditionally connect patients with remote providers to provide limited care, Bodhi connects boots-on-the-ground providers in remote regions throughout the world with expert U.S. medical specialists to help answer the toughest clinical questions and deliver definitive treatment at the point-of-care. Think of Bodhi as a medical mission via a mobile phone or laptop. As a Bodhi Consultant, you donate your professional services to Health-e-Charity a 501c(3) non-profit organization every time you use Bodhi! Click the link to pre-register, and go to www.bodhiconnect.org to learn more! *Your professional services donated to Bodhi may be tax deductible; seek advice from your tax specialist for this.*

Ultrasound fellow Kareem Agunbiade recorded a couple PSAs (Public Service Announcement) for the non-profit New America to help combat myths and rumors about the COVID vaccine, especially among immigrant communities. He even recorded a message in French.

Naresh Ramarajan (2014) founder of the nonprofit Navya Network, and Tom Lee founder of the nonprofit Community Partners International (CPI) led an effort in May 2021 that raised $4.5M, sent 6000 oxygen concentrators, and installed 16 oxygen generator plants at hospitals in India to assist with the peak of the second wave of COVID-19 there. CPI also sent shipments to Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. These efforts to send equipment to India were featured in the Boston Globe. You can still help as the Navya network is continuing to fundraise to build self-sustainable oxygen infrastructure: www.together4india.org
Ultrasound fellow Kareem Agunbiade is a stand-up comic (search him out on YouTube), and he was invited to perform for the Flappers Comedy Club in March and June 2021.

Jen Cassidy was elected to Vice Chair of Emergency Medicine Association of Residency Coordinators (EMARC) and is on the CORD (Council of Residency Directors) Board as Liaison.

Jaime Jordan was re-elected to the CORD board as a Member-at-Large and is now the Chair of the CORD Academy for Scholarship. In 2010 the Council of Emergency Medicine Residency Directors (CORD) established an Academy for Scholarship in Education in Emergency Medicine to define, promote, recognize, and reward excellence in education, education research, and education leadership in emergency medicine.

Pam Dyne was elected to be Chair of the Faculty Development Pillar of the CORD Academy of Scholarship.

Rebecca Bavolek was elected to be Planning Chair of the CORD Academic Assembly. That means she will be the Junior Chair in 2022, Chair in 2023, and Immediate Past Chair in 2024, thus contributing to and leading the scientific program and meeting for several years.

Carolyn Sachs (1994) is a member of several ACEP Public Health Subcommittees:
- Subcommittee Member on Strangulation
- Subcommittee Member Effect of Covid on Health Disparities
- Subcommittee Chairperson paper on Race and Public Health

Jacob Lentz (2019) was promoted to O-4 (Lieutenant Commander) in the Navy and was merit re-ordered to #2 on the national O-4 promotion list. To those of us not in the military (i.e. most of us) I asked Jake what this means, and he explained an “O-4 is just a general officer rank. It is the equivalent of a major in the Army or Marines or Air Force. In the Navy and the Coast Guard it is called a Lieutenant Commander. The merit re-order means that my date of promotion was moved ahead of everyone else by one person (usually done by date you entered service) based on my good looks and dance moves (it also helps to be an ER doctor during a pandemic, I think).

Residents teaching ultrasound to the medical students: Daniel Ichwan (2021) teaching echo, Theresa Cheng (2021) and Michelle Brennan (2022) teaching ultrasound in the evaluation of shock.

Eric Savitsky (1995) co-authored several ultrasound related digital multimedia online publications.

“Resuscitative TEE,” “Problem-Focused Echocardiographic Examination of LVAD Patients,” and “Biceps Tendon Sheath Injection”

Vanessa Franco (2017) published a CorePendium chapter “Tibial and Fibular Shaft Fractures” on EM:RAP.

Thanks to vaccines and a lot of public health measures, people are back to traveling. Hawaii has been a popular destination for residents, faculty and alumni from what I can see on social media. June was a great time to travel to Hawaii, with EM:RAP and EMA at the Kauai Emergency Medicine & Acute Care course featuring Mel Herbert (1995), Britt Guest (2019), Sara Crager (2015). Sara gave lectures “Sepsis: Hot off the Press,” “Myths in Emergency Medicine” and “Emerging Issues in Anticoagulation.” Britt gave lectures on “Psychiatric Patients: Medical Evaluation” and “Chest Xray, Ultrasonography or CT?” They also participated in panel discussions and discussions of important recent EM literature. Given it coincided with graduation, Britt received her fellowship crystal plaque.

Angelique Campen (2000) participated in a special broadcast in recognition of women and National Doctor’s Day. She discussed her journey as a female physician, her experience working in the emergency department during the pandemic, and how life has been both as a doctor and a mom on a Facebook live event.

Rebecca Bavolek has a great series of EM:RAP lectures - Chest Pain in Pregnancy. Definitely do not want to miss any of these diagnoses.

Judy Choe who completed her administration fellowship with us, also completed her MBA at UCLA Anderson School. She was elected to the Cal/AAEM Board of Directors, and will hold this role for the next academic year.

Tyler Barrett (2005) was promoted to Executive Medical Director, Vanderbilt Emergency Services.

Andy Grock lectured for AudioDigest Emergency Medicine: Pericardial Tamponade. 38:12 (June 21) 2021. Aortic Dissection . 38:13 (July 7) 2021. He is the Poster Chair for the September CalACEP AdvancED Conference this year.

Jason Prystowsky, an attending at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, works to provide care to those underserved. He worked for Indian Health Services on the Navajo Indian reservation, and has worked in Uganda, Haiti, the West Bank, and South Sudan with organizations including Doctors for Global Health, MediShare, Doctors without Borders, and USAID. He founded DWW-SBSM (Doctors without walls Santa Barbara Street Medicine) a local nonprofit that provides free medical care to the homeless and working poor in the Santa Barbara area. One of the programs that DWW-SBSM conducts is a UCSB Annual Underserved Medicine Seminar. The course at the University of California, Santa Barbara is a collaborative and volunteer effort of weekly seminars and has featured a number of our alumni. This year’s course included seminar sessions with Parveen Parmar (2008) “Using Science to Document Human Rights Violations; the Rohingya”; Matt Waxman (2007), “Complex Humanitarian Emergencies: The Battle of Mosul”; and Jerry Hoffman (1979), “Medical Ethics: Professionalism.”

Carmen has also received a number of awards for her excellence in teaching and educational contributions.
- She was a recipient of one of the first Health Equity Innovation Awards (HEIAs) from Vanderbilt University Medical Center for developing a “Health Equity Elective for Residents.”
- May 2021 she was elected to membership in the Vanderbilt School of Medicine's Academy for Excellence in Education. The Academy is a community of outstanding faculty educators who are highly engaged in the educational mission.
- June 2021 she was awarded the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Emergency Department. Inaugural Laurence Stack Award for Life and Career Mentorship.

Kelli O’Laughlin (2007) is site PI for INSPIRE, a study of COVID-19 long haulers featured on a Washington news report. She continues to be a leader in global health and HIV care in sub-Saharan Africa. She has two grants through NIH/NIAID and the UW Center for AIDS Research. The first “Human mobility and HIV care engagement among African refugees in Uganda,” to understand what aspects of refugees’ movement are associated with HIV care engagement, defined as linkage to HIV care, retention in care, ART adherence and viral suppression. The other grant is “Assisted partner notification for HIV in refugee settlements in West Nile Uganda: assessing the reach, effectiveness, adoption, implementation, and maintenance using the RE-AIM framework” to assess assisted partner notification (APN) implementation in refugee settlements in West Nile Uganda.

Congratulations Josh Baugh (2019), for several recent publications from work during his administration fellowship related to COVID-19 operations, and also addressing burnout - it is a system issue. Baugh JJ, et al. Beyond the Maslach burnout inventory: addressing emergency medicine burnout with Maslach’s full theory. J Am Coll Emerg Physicians Open. 2020 May 27;1(5):1044-1049. doi: 10.1002/emp2.12101. He also had an additional publication in the Harvard Business Review about how his administration team has worked to combat burnout in their emergency department.

Adam Landman (2008) is Brigham Health’s Vice President and Chief Information and Digital Officer. April 2021 he was a featured speaker at NCQA's conference “Quality Talks,” a series of TED-style talks from health care leaders with ideas about how to collaboratively improve American health care.

Our Alumni - Jeff Tabas (1998), Eric Isaacs (1994), and Rob Rodriguez (1994) are all thriving at UCSF. Jeff continues to be a super educator winning multiple awards and honors at UCSF, he has leadership roles in the UCSF office of CME, the UCSF Quality Review Board, is director of faculty development in the ED, and he is on the Annals of EM Editorial Board. Eric is Director of the Geriatric ED at SF General, co-chairs the hospital's Ethics Committee, and is a member of the ACEP palliative care section. Rob Rodriguez Is the Associate Chair of Research, member of the UCSF Latinx Center of Excellence and co-director of the UCSF LaCMER Research Internship, continues to practice EM and critical care and last year became of the Biden COVID-19 task force. He has been an incredible mentor to hundreds of students, manages numerous research projects at a time and continues to publish prolifically.
Ashkan Akasheh (2015) continues to work at Kaiser Permanente Orange County and has recently been sworn into the US Army Reserve with a rank of Major. He will be serving as an Emergency Physician in the Army Medical Corps. And he finds time to take his two boys Ashton and Rustin to the beach all the time on his super cool power E bike.

Anthony Catalano (2017) has been working with a developer to help create an online patient education and shared decision-making platform called The risk:Benefit. It is a centralized database of procedures with handouts to share or printout for patients and their families that describes an intervention, and gives them an estimate of what their risk of experiencing a complication and risk of benefit might be. Right now, they have just about every procedure that we would use in emergency medicine (eg lumbar puncture, blood transfusion, etc) and a few hundred other interventions from other specialties. They are in the process of getting the emergency medicine procedures and a handful of other common ones translated into Spanish and getting a designer to polish the final product a bit, but the website is up and running and usable, and they are hoping to launch at some point this year. While they are still beta testing and will have additional features and hopefully some graphics/bugs worked out in the coming months, they have implemented a lot of the feedback received. Anthony almost always uses it for consent for things like procedural sedation and blood transfusions, but generally not for laceration repairs or emergent procedures unless he feels it will be of benefit. If anyone is interested, you can go to riskben.com and request a log in and check it out, and provide feedback or you can email Anthony directly (contact the Residency & Alumni Newsletter Editor for a connection) for access or feedback/questions.

Brandon Firestone (2017) is now a faculty member and emergency medicine preceptor for the new Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine.

Anthony Catalano (2017) has been working with a developer to help create an online patient education and shared decision-making platform called The risk:Benefit. It is a centralized database of procedures with handouts to share or printout for patients and their families that describes an intervention, and gives them an estimate of what their risk of experiencing a complication and risk of benefit might be. Right now, they have just about every procedure that we would use in emergency medicine (eg lumbar puncture, blood transfusion, etc) and a few hundred other interventions from other specialties. They are in the process of getting the emergency medicine procedures and a handful of other common ones translated into Spanish and getting a designer to polish the final product a bit, but the website is up and running and usable, and they are hoping to launch at some point this year. While they are still beta testing and will have additional features and hopefully some graphics/bugs worked out in the coming months, they have implemented a lot of the feedback received. Anthony almost always uses it for consent for things like procedural sedation and blood transfusions, but generally not for laceration repairs or emergent procedures unless he feels it will be of benefit. If anyone is interested, you can go to riskben.com and request a log in and check it out, and provide feedback or you can email Anthony directly (contact the Residency & Alumni Newsletter Editor for a connection) for access or feedback/questions.

Wendy Lin (2002) has a new academic title, Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor at the Cedars Sinai Emergency Medicine Department.
Libby Char (1997) had been the acting interim Director of the Department of Health (DOH) for Hawaii since last year, when the prior Director was removed. March 2021 the Hawaii Senate Health Committee today voted to recommend the Senate consent to the appointment become official, not just interim. Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole, chair of the Senate Committee on Health said “… the committee unanimously voted to recommend advise and consent to Dr. Char’s nomination… She has already proven herself as a capable leader and I look forward to continued collaborations with her as we continue to navigate through this pandemic.”

Congratulations and a sad farewell as Allison Ferreira (2018), is going across town to join the Critical Care Faculty team at Keck/USC in the CTICU. Allison is going to further develop her expertise in her area of focus, ECMO. This is a great opportunity for her, and they will be so lucky to have her.

Congratulations to Randy Lee (2020) who was already named “Attending of the Month” at George Washington University in his first few months as a new academician.

Brava Parveen Parmar (2008) who has been named the new Director of the Keck-USC School of Medicine Center for Gender Equity in Medicine and Science (GEMS). GEMS was established in 2019 to bring together diverse groups to advance gender equity across the career pipeline, advocate for equal pay, facilitate career development with the goal of achieving equitable representation in leadership for all (regardless of gender), and create a culture intolerant of sexual harassment and gender discrimination.

Josh Baugh (2019) finished his Partners Fellowship in Emergency Medicine Administration at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) June 2021. Lucky for them he will be staying on as faculty at MGH as the Associate Medical Director for the ED.

David Kim (2018) completed his critical care fellowship at Maryland Shock Trauma and will be working in critical care in Hawaii at Pali Momi Medical Center and Straub Medical Center.

Reza Danesh (2008) has launched MODO medicine, a mobile medical provider to your door in Maui where he has been working in emergency medicine for the past decade. The safer at home orders, and isolation on the island have helped focus these efforts. Check out his promotional video.

Carmen Wolfe (2015) is starting a new emergency medicine residency program. She was heavily recruited and officially accepted a position to be the Program Director to establish and oversee a new EM program at Tristar Skyline Medical Center in Nashville. We all knew she would be an amazing program director and be a lot of competition for our recruitment efforts. We wish her the best with this new endeavor.
Jess Oswald (2018) has been thriving at UCSD with her dual clinical work in pain management with Anesthesia and the Emergency Department. She has involved many residents in projects with successful presentations at SAEM (see the shout outs on the prior pages) and publications of her work. She was highlighted by medical students as an effective teacher and recently got recognition along with about 10 other EM faculty (no official award...just a well deserved kudos).

Jess created a standardized nerve block curriculum that has been taught with cadavers at Loma Linda and UCSD. This work has been turned into a teachability as well as a reproducibility study.

The 2 year project of creating a collection of physical therapy videos she has been working on since fellowship are now live (see the mention in the prior newsletter). Jess was able to integrate QR codes into discharge paperwork that directly links to the videos. This is the first time use of QR codes in EPIC and the informatics team and nurse educators are pretty excited about this project.

For anyone interested in using these videos in instructions for patients, they can be found at the following links.

**Introduction.** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/488244827/48e2f88317](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/488244827/48e2f88317)

**Shoulder Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462463135/0bf6824e70](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462463135/0bf6824e70)

**Axial Neck Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462780619/59b3a6183c](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462780619/59b3a6183c)

**Knee Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462825449/18e3d2c9b4](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462825449/18e3d2c9b4)

**General Low Back Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462465170/e1ee4108de](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462465170/e1ee4108de)

**Neck Pain After Whiplash** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462461548/bc1a6fd7ce](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462461548/bc1a6fd7ce)

**Hip Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462464447/aa4f155635](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462464447/aa4f155635)

**Piriformis Syndrome** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/461557497/d735fea65c](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/461557497/d735fea65c)

**Sacroiliac Joint Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462462416/9c2dbb7422](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462462416/9c2dbb7422)

**Neck Pain Radiates Down Your Arm** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462465884/3524d92fd9](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462465884/3524d92fd9)

**Low Back Pain and Radiating Leg Pain** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462463841/79b05a8f43](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462463841/79b05a8f43)

**Greater Trochanteric Bursitis** [https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462465381/79b05a8f43](https://vimeo.com/user16212450/download/462465381/79b05a8f43)

In addition to all of her investigator initiated studies she is site PI for a phase II clinical trial for painful diabetic neuropathy.

More importantly, she recently bought a house in Oceanside and she and John are expecting her first born this August 2021.

Tony Loffredo (2001) has continued to work to improve end of life and palliative care discussions into his clinical practice and innovations as the ED Director of Palliative Care at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He is a member of the ACEP Palliative Care Section and recently first authored “United States Best Practice Guidelines for Primary Palliative Care in the Emergency Department.” In Press in Ann Emerg Med. (Shout out to co-author Eric Isaacs (1994).

Sanjay Arora (2005) was named Vice Chair for Academic Affairs for the Department of Emergency Medicine at Keck-USC.

Tahlia Spector (2005) has launched a website to further her work to help trainees build clinical skills, and has been working on a new book “How to Excel in Medical School” coming out in early 2022. She is the Editor in Chief of the Intern On-Call Book.

Scott Rodi (1998) is the Inaugural Chair of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Emergency Medicine Department. This is not a new position, as Scott was chief but he helmed the group to department status. Scott was the newsletter’s residency classmate, and I had missed this when it happened, and when I realized I wanted to include it because he deserves a kudos!
Congratulations to Trisha Agarwal, former UCLA EM Research Associate Volunteer and then research coordinator/EMRA manager, who did an accessional job with our studies this past year. She is starting her career in medicine as a medical student at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. As a volunteer, she worked with Bill Mower (1990) and Randy Lee (2020) on the beds pulse ox study with several papers in presubmission.

Congratulations to former UCLA EM Research Associate Volunteer and then research coordinator/EMRA manager Scott Lewis! He was an excellent research coordinator with us during his gap year before medical school and he matched at UCSD in Anesthesiology this year.

Priscilla Hanudel (2012) was featured in several news media stories discussing her planned attendance at the Global Citizen Vax Live “Concert to Reunite the World”. The event was the first major live concert in Los Angeles since the COVID pandemic shutdown, and the first major concert at the new SoFi Stadium in Inglewood. The event only sold tickets to frontline healthcare workers who also had to show proof of vaccination. Global Citizen used the event to raise money for charity, and called on governments to help pledge money to distribute vaccines to the poorest countries. The concert featured numerous celebrities and performers. Claudie Bolduc (2021), Angelique Campen (2000) and Anna Yap (2022) also attended the live event. The rest of us had to wait until May 8th to see the taped event on TV.

Alumni - Do you have something to share with the UCLA residency and alumni family for the kudos page? Email Richelle Cooper (1998).
January 2021 ACEP hosted a virtual two day Initiation of Buprenorphine and Pain Management in the ED-Implementation Workshop, that was sponsored by a grant from SAMHSA. Reb Close (2003) lectured on day 1 “ED to Full County Implementations.” Jess Oswald (2018) lectured day 2 on “Ultrasound Guided Pain Management in the ED.”

For those of you who are interested in MAT for opioid use disorder and unaware, HHS issued a new policy exempting the requirement for courses to obtain X Waiver. Practice Guidelines for the Administration of Buprenorphine for Treating Opioid Use Disorder to expand access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) by exempting physicians from certain certification requirements needed to prescribe buprenorphine for opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment. There are some specific things we need to do when writing these scripts, but this should remove some barriers. There are several available webinars to learn about this treatment implementation in your ED.

For those looking for resources, you use any of the information on the prescribe safe resources that Reb Close has at her emergency department website. There are also a lot of resources via California Bridge.

Congratulations to Sophie Terp (2012), Parveen Parmar (2008) and colleagues for their work Deaths in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention: FY2018–2020. The publication garnered a lot of media attention, including Fox 11 news, and Einstein Health news.

Sophie and Parveen have several other research projects evaluating events in ICE detention with 2 abstracts presented at AcademyHealth 2021:

Sophie also mentored a student project, and her mentee, Mr Ahmed, was one of 60 undergraduates nationwide selected to present research on Capitol Hill at the Council on Undergraduate Research’s Posters on the Hill in April 2021. He presented his findings to Senator Dianne Feinstein’s advisor on immigration, and recommendations for measures to promote compliance with Performance-Based National Detention Standards in the future were relayed.

Finally congratulations to Sophie Terp on her promotion to Associate Professor! Congratulations Alumni!

Dan Katz (2004) took over as co-owner (with Jill Furguson (1980)) and new Medical Director of Malibu Urgent Care featured in the local Malibu Times.
Rushdi Cader (1999) seems to have had 10 careers, and all at the same time, and he has excelled at them all and done so with incredible humility. He has served as a volunteer police officer in San Luis Obispo, serves as Medical Director of the San Luis Obispo Regional SWAT Team, and is the Founder and President of SWAT Trauma Assistance Training that manufactures tactical medical training products and has provided free tactical medical training to over 1200 local and federal law enforcement officers throughout California. He has volunteered as an Emergency Medical Officer with the International Medical Corps in multiple regions of conflict and natural disaster.

The COVID-19 pandemic spawned a desire within Rushdi to seek a new path in life. So last year, he decided to transition from his role as a full time NOC doc in the ED for over 22 years in San Luis Obispo, to becoming the Medical Director of two central coast jails. As much as he loves EM, the shift has brought new challenges and rewards. He has had “to grapple with COVID-19 outbreaks, be a daily “fixer”, and re-learn primary care medicine for 2021. The role of serving broken souls within the custody setting has been one of the most fulfilling roles that I have taken on since my days of overseas medicine and my work with the UMMA Free Clinic in South Central LA. I have found that caring for inmates has made me more empathetic, and grateful for my station in life. I’m not sure if my current work in corrections is my long term career path, or if it may take me in an entirely new direction.”

For those who do not know the history of the UMMA Free Clinic in South Central Los Angeles: In 1992, Muslim American students at UCLA and Charles Drew University established the University Muslim Medical Association. In the wake of the civil disturbances of 1992, the students decided to open a free clinic with University support. While waiting on construction the students collected donated equipment and with Congresswoman Waters support raised 1.3 million dollars. In 1996 the clinic opened and volunteers of all faiths came together to serve, and a year later it was incorporated as a non-profit with its first board of directors. In 2006 UMMA was recognized by Congress for its commitment to excellence as a model of Muslim philanthropy, and in 2008 UMMA was the first Muslim American organization designated as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), a special status awarded by the U.S. government. The organization is considered by other clinics across the country to be an example of leading-edge community-based care. In 2013, UMMA opened its school-based Wellness Center & Community Garden in the underserved and at risk South Los Angeles community at Fremont High School. UMMA envisions itself as part of a larger network of institutions addressing the health and well-being of the underserved and indigent, mindful of the cultural, spiritual, social and economic realities that impinge upon them, and the traditional barriers to accessing care.”

The original student founders of UMMA included Rushdi, his wife Nisha (a pediatrician who specializes in child abuse response), his brother Rumi (a UCLA Internal Medicine physician), and several other remarkable individuals. The UMMA Volunteer Project founded in 1996 serves as the volunteer core. UVP allows students the opportunity to volunteer at both clinics, giving them first-hand exposure to the health care field in one of the most underserved regions in the nation. Volunteers can also help out at one of the many events UMMA Clinic participates in each year, which include the Hawthorne Health Fair, Tax Day, Doctor for a Day, and Humanitarian Day.

And now the cycle continues. Rushdi’s eldest son Isa, who long ago came to our joint EM/Peds conference when the sitter was not available, is now starting his second year at the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program. Jibreel, his second child has graduated college and is studying for the MCAT, and daughter Hana is in her first year of college playing harp and waiting for her chance to perform as part of the Cal Poly Symphony.
Mike Casner (2017) officially faculty at UKMC with a name plate on the door to his office has spent time in the past year honing his baking skills.

Nara Sun (Shin) (2006) and husband Eon were featured in a Yale Medical School alumni Partners Through Giving newsletter for their contribution to their alma mater.


Sara May (2005) is not only working as an EM provider she is a documentary and fine art photographer based in Seattle, WA. Her work has included post-Ebola Sierra Leone, Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, the post-earthquake crisis in Haiti, and the US/Mexican Border. Her work has been featured on PBS NewsHour and TakePart.org, and her work in Sierra Leone, "After the Crisis" was featured in the fall 2017 issue of Zeke Magazine. Her images have been featured in solo exhibitions at the Leica Gallery in Seattle, Washington, as well as the Leica Gallery in Washington, D.C., and group shows in Seattle and NYC.

Check out the latest session of Didi Ikpe-Eko’s (2010) When docs talk on YouTube - “Crossing Lines.. How far is too far?” Stories that will make you cringe, and some that will make you laugh.” Part 2, of the conversation was the “Men’s Perspective.”

Tiffany (Hackett) Ferreri (2004) Director of Leadership Development at Vituity, and Medical Director at her ED, is becoming an accomplished water color painter (in her “spare time”).
Congratulations to Hemal Kanzaria, former UCLA RWJ, who, after a highly-competitive search, was appointed to the Terry A. Patinkin, MD, Endowed Professorship, at UCSF. During his RWJ fellowship, Hemal conducted community-based participatory research with Healthy African American Families (HAAF) and Dreamers to understand the health needs of people who remain uninsured despite the Affordable Care Act. He also led several of the initial studies in emergency medicine on shared decision-making, often co-publishing with patients and community members, to elevate the patient voice in emergency care. Hemal joined the faculty at UCSF in 2015, where he has developed and led important programs to support underserved and vulnerable populations. Some of the highlights of Hemal’s work are listed below.

- Served as the SFDPH Director for Complex Care Analytics and led the operationalization and expansion of an inter-agency data system to integrate medical, social, and behavioral health information with a focus on homelessness
- Co-founded the ZSFG Social Medicine Program to offer team-based multi-disciplinary care to ED patients with behavioral health and social needs, which has served over 4,000 patients and averted more than 600 hospital admissions
- Helped to raise over $5.5M to serve San Francisco residents with mental illness
- Serves as Medical Director in the SFDPH Department of Care Coordination, overseeing social service delivery and utilization management activities at ZSFG
- Serves as Co-Director (with Dr. Maria Raven) for our department’s Social Emergency Medicine Section
- Maintains a robust research portfolio on Social Emergency Medicine – Published over 60 peer-reviewed manuscripts and served as PI or Co-PI on over $6M in grants focused on health-related social needs
- Received the ZSFG Values in Action Award, SF Heroes and Hearts Award, and was twice recognized by America’s Essential Hospitals for his outstanding work

This is the UCSF Emergency Department’s first gift of an Endowed Professorship. Hemal also co-authored a recent JAMA publication with collaborators describing their social medicine intervention in the department, which included a podcast interview with editor Dr. Livingston. Hemal and his co-authors graciously discussed their experience, and pearls to success with the IDHEAL group and others at our monthly western social EM journal club (a collaboration of social EM focused faculty and fellows from our program and IDHEAL members, and from Stanford, University of Washington, Highland and UCSF).

Former Research fellow Todd Schneberk, and Parveen Parmar (2008) were among several experts at an immigration and asylum symposium. The event, organized by Todd, was designed to outline the methods of oppression within our immigration policies and link experts from medicine, law, sociology, policy and community organizing/grassroots advocacy in order to develop actionable ways forward within the current context. The schedule for the day included presentations, testimony of an asylum seeker subjected to MPP, a panel discussion on local Southern CA community advocacy and another on national policy advocacy. The event was a collaboration of The USC Office of Social Justice, USC Keck Human Rights Clinic, USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health, ACLU of Southern California, Human Rights First, Frontline Wellness, and The Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA). It was a fascinating seminar and discussion of the current state of asylum and humanitarian support for displaced populations among experts from numerous disciplines, with Q and A.


Richards A, Scheving W, Canders CP. A man with an AICD presents with abdominal pulsations. Vis J Emerg Med. 2021;Epub(22):100921. (That first author is Amaris Richards, our own central work area colleague)


Congratulations Alumni on these Publications:


Congratulations Alumni on these Publications:


Heun-Johnson H, **Menchine M,** Axeen S, Lung K, **Claudius I,** Wright T, Seabury SA. Association Between Race/Ethnicity and Disparities in Health Care Use Before First-Episode Psychosis Among Privately Insured Young Patients. JAMA Psychiatry. 2021 Mar 1;78(3):311-319.


Congratulations Alumni on these Publications:


