January 2022 - June 2022
Residency & Alumni Newsletter

Upcoming Events

CalACEP AdvancED - September 2, 2022 in San Diego, CA. The theme of AdvancED 2022 is "Meet the Moment"

ACEP Scientific Assembly 2022 - October 1-4, 2022 San Francisco

ACEP Alumni Event - October 2, 2022 look for the email from Jen Cassidy.

Welcome Class of 2026!

Congratulations Class of 2022 - Our Newest
Message from the Chair:

A warm welcome to our new PGY-1 class of 2026!
We are always sad to say goodbye to our residency class of 2022 (please see the graduation page), but they are off to start promising careers, and we even get to keep a few around with us for a while! And thanks to all who helped put on a terrific graduation event, and to our colleagues at AV who sponsored it.

We also celebrate the graduation of some terrific fellows: Max Berger (Medical Education), Annette Dekker (Research), Jesus Torres (National Clinician Scholars and IDHEAL), Caroline Humphreys (2021) (Medical Education), and Anna Darby (National Clinician Scholars Program). Hopefully we'll keep some of them around too!

Watch for our new fellows as they start appearing at our various UCLA sites—Haig Aintablian (2022) (Space Medicine), Jeremy Shin (Ultrasound), Joshua Tiao (National Clinician Scholars Program), Catherine Yu (Medical Education), Ashley Vuong-Goldshear (Medical Education), and Anna Yap (2022) (Administration).

And of course we still have another year with second year fellows, Erika Kimele-Gis (Ultrasound), Rose Diaz (IDHEAL), and Jennifer Fang (Informatics).

Some of our faculty have new roles and responsibilities:

Rebecca Bavolek will continue to serve as our Residency Program Director, but will also add the hat of Vice Chair of Education for the DEM.

Lynne McCullough (1998) has finished her time as Chief of Staff at Reagan and returns her full attention as ED Medical Director at RR, with the added duties of Vice Chair of Operations for the DEM.

Jamie Bell is our Vice Chair of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion for the DEM, and will work with our department as well as the Dean’s Office.

After a long search, Dr. Craig Goolsby (2008) has been selected as the next Chief at Harbor-UCLA, and Vice Chair in the UCLA DEM! He and his family return to So-Cal from Virginia, and he starts in September. Check out the details later in this edition. Welcome back to UCLA, Craig!

And ACEP Scientific Assembly will be in San Francisco this Fall, so hopefully we can have a big turnout and great event with faculty, residents, and alumni.

Our Emergency Medicine Research Associate (EMRA) students are finally back in the hospital! This longstanding volunteer program continues to have great impact on our research efforts.

Again, 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.

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
JL: First of all, congratulations.

CG: Thank you very much.

I know we haven’t met before and I’m currently on a military exercise and talking to you while overseeing a physical fitness test for some slackers, but I think Richelle thought I should interview you because we both have a military background, though, in full disclosure, yours is much more impressive and extensive than mine.

Small world! I learned as a resident that Richelle is usually right.

Me too. So you’re going to start as Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Harbor-UCLA in September. What were you doing before this?

I have worked at Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) in Bethesda, Maryland for the past 10 years. Most recently, I’ve been Vice Chair of the Department of Military and Emergency Medicine as well as Science Director of the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health.

Oh awesome. Did you like it and what kind of stuff did you work on there?

It was great. My family – my wife Angela, my son Max, and my daughter Vivian – and I loved living in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase area. It’s been a wonderful community to raise a family.

USU has been a terrific place to work. I’ve had freedom to pursue a lot of creative research, and educational projects. My work has focused on military-civilian knowledge translation and medical education-related research in the past several years. It’s been really rewarding to have worked so much on the Stop the Bleed Campaign – everything from helping to create the campaign and participating in the White House launch to receiving multiple grants. The funding allowed me to create education programs for high schoolers and a cool new audiovisual feedback-enabled tourniquet designed for the public. We just finished collecting data from public users of our tourniquet in Boston, Maryland, and Sweden with awesome results!

And before that you were Air Force?

Yes - for many years. I grew up in northern California and went to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. I served as a Public Affairs Officer in Florida for two years after graduating from the Academy. The Air Force sent me to medical school at Tulane in New Orleans, and I did my transitional internship at Harbor and my emergency medicine residency at UCLA.

After finishing residency, I went back on active duty in the Air Force – I was stationed in San Antonio – and deployed twice to Iraq. Then I went to USU – first in uniform and later transitioned to a civilian faculty member position and have been there ever since.
What was the Air Force Academy like?

The Academy was an amazing experience. I made lifelong friends, and the Academy challenged me at a very young age. For instance, they taught me to fly a plane on my own and put me through survival training in the Rocky Mountains. The military teamwork culture demands that you think about the greater good and the mission. We spent a lot of time studying leadership and how to exercise it effectively. From day one, we heard the message that we were there to become leaders. Of course, it wasn’t easy being at the Academy and many times it wasn’t too much fun. We often joke that the Air Force Academy is a great place to be from but not so much a great place to be at.

From what I’ve heard about the service academies, I think I understand that. One of the (few) things for which I’m grateful to the military is that it is the only thing to which I’ve ever belonged where they pay you money to teach you how to be a better leader. Outside of the military I don’t think it is easy to get drilled-down, deep leadership instruction. And they encourage you to examine your decisions and behaviors and actively improve in that domain. I’m on several text chains with friends where we swap leadership case studies all the time. They’re all military folks.

The military takes leadership very seriously and they invest a lot in it. Leadership matters. The entire four-year process at the Academy focuses on building leaders. They break you down, then start teaching you to function as a follower, as a team member – and eventually you assume more and more leadership responsibility over time.

One of the great things at USU is our four-year integrated leadership curriculum culminating in a series of field exercises. We teach medical students a variety of leadership knowledge and skills: everything from emotional intelligence and personality typing to understand themselves better to leading dynamic 25-person organizations in simulated combat conditions.

Yet somehow you were enticed to give that up?

I’m really excited to be going to Harbor. The department has made so many contributions and has such a storied reputation in emergency medicine. It has amazing faculty, trainees and staff, a great patient population, and a wonderful mission. The chance to lead the department, and help advance its patient care, science, and education missions was just an opportunity I couldn’t pass.

Chevy Chase is a difficult place to leave, but my wife and I enjoyed living in Los Angeles before. Returning to a place we liked helped as well.

What are you foreseeing as your focuses when you start?

There will be many things for me to consider. Resource identification and optimization strikes me as particularly important. The department has done amazing work with sometimes constrained resources, and I am hoping to use my government experience to help locate or leverage money, people, or other synergies to advance our mission.

That sounds awesome.

Thanks! Hopefully, we will do some great work.

I’m sure you will. Listen, it’s been a pleasure talking to you. Hopefully we can do some more joint conferences and projects between Harbor and UCLA in the coming years.

That sounds great – I’m sure we will.
And just like that….. we said goodbye to covid restrictions and returned to in-person retreat in Palm Springs for the first time in 3 years complete with a performance by Gravely Disabled and guest singers Nacho Calles (2022) and Kenneth Kim (2025). It was great! And bonus, several members of class of 2021 who missed out on 2 years of retreat took a break from their fellowships and jobs to spend time together at an AirBNB in Palm Springs and hang out with us after dinner.

We are so thankful to be able to get back to our traditions and a special thanks to Jen Cassidy, Matthew Hill and Christina Denman as the residency coordination team who took care of all of us and very special thanks to the faculty, alumni, and part-timers who worked in the ED covering for the residents and faculty who went to Palm Springs.
Did you come? Did you watch? Well, many of you did. In April EM:RAP once again had a live in-person conference, at the UCLA Luskin Center. For those who attended it was a great return to in person learning and to see people we have not seen. The focus was to bring the EM community together and celebrate education and our specialty after surviving 2 years of a pandemic. EM:RAP invited many of their international colleagues from the around the world including Brazil, Haiti, Kenya and, more. Several UCLA faculty and alumni were featured at this conference including Mel Herbert (1995) Greg Hendey (1993), Greg Moran (1992), Jerry Hoffman (1979), Britt Guest (2019), Sara Crager (2015), Kellie Kitamura (2019), Ilene Claudius (2002), Sanjay Arora (2005) and Mike Menchine (2004). It was a really special experience for the team to put on this conference and they look forward to more conferences like this in the future.

The EM:RAP Team (thanks Mel Herbert and Britt Guest) sponsored all of our residents to attend in person for one of the days.

In addition to the in person attendees > 4500 watching the live stream across the US and the globe, and even more who have watched the conference subsequently. Britt is looking forward to planning the next in person event.
Meet the 2022-2023 Chief Residents

Agatha Brzezinski, despite being born in LA, grew up in the suburbs of Portland, Oregon before moving to Poland on a Fulbright and later Washington, D.C to work at the NIH after college. After finishing medical school and her MPH in Boston, she was thrilled to come full circle and match back in California just a few minutes down the road from where she was born. She will apply to global health fellowships this year in hopes of an academic career in international emergency medicine with a focus in humanitarian response.

Michelle Choi was born in Alexandria, Virginia and grew up in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. She was a Virginia girl (go Wahoos!) through and through before deciding to move to sunny California and has never looked back. In her free time you can find her attending concerts, taking photos, and watching puppy videos. She hopes to stay in Los Angeles after graduation and plans to work in the community.

Caitlin Oldenkamp is a big nerd from a small town in NorCal. During undergrad at UCSD, she realized that her nightmares consisted of a desk job and a 9-5 schedule. She spent 3 years in NYC before returning to SoCal to attend UCLA Medical School. As a bicycle commuter, her goal is to complete residency without becoming an intermediate or critical trauma. Her plans for the future vacillate between community and academics.

Jared Marshall grew up in central New Jersey and spent college and medical school in Pennsylvania before journeying out west to UCLA for residency. Despite traffic, he hopes to settle down in SoCal for the near future, and is looking forward to getting married in mid-July to his fiancee Alanna. For his career, he plans on working at a variety of different sites before deciding on an optimal community/academic balance.

Chase Richard is still figuring it out. He grew up in Oakland, Ca, stayed in the Bay Area through college, and first encountered winter in Philly for medical school. He spent a couple of years learning how money worked at business school in NorCal before driving south to UCLA! Chase hopes to continue his EDI recruitment and retention efforts and is interested in improving the integration of new technology in emergency medicine.
Career Day for the Class of 2023

We switched things up a bit this year for career day, moving it earlier in the academic cycle so the rising r4s could get more perspective and plan. Thanks to David Schriger for letting us occupy his backyard - an unusually sweltering April day, and David Schriger was on COVID quarantine. Scott Votey (1987) came into town to help co-host with Richelle Cooper (1998), Jen Cassidy and Matt Hill helped get us organized and catered lunch, and Steven Lai (2016) and Kellie Kitamura (2019) helped plan and teach. It was as always a great day to see alumni and help set the residents off on their path. Thanks to David Morales (2018), Brandon Firestone (2017), Joe Chan (2015), Malkeet Gupta (2006), Monica Lee (2009), Carmen Partida, Lisa Zhao (2011), and Seth Sushinsky (2012), for coming and speaking with the residents. So excited to see their career trajectories.

Thank you Wellness Committee:

Carolyn Sachs (1994) and the rest of the wellness committee organized a walk through the UCLA Campus/sculpture garden to celebrate National Doctor's Day as well as National Walk in the Park Day!
Rebecca Bavolek was track chair for this year’s CORD conference, finally back in person and a very well attended and organized meeting. Congratulations on a job well done!


Natasha Wheaton collaborated with the Foundations group.

Pam Dyne (1995) networked and continued her education and teaching on wellness.

Jennifer Cassidy was the EMARC (Emergency Medicine Association of Residency Coordinators) 2022 Academic Assembly Senior Track Chair, she led many of the sessions and knocked it out of the park: “Introduction to EMARC and AA,” “Small Groups by Region, Icebreakers, Create List of Topics for Future Discussion on Day 2,” “Problems and Solutions Discussion,” “Building Relationships and Working with GME Coordinators at Your Institution,” “Topical Small Groups from Day 1 List Generation,” “Data, Metrics and Dashboards: Organizing Info to Make Your Job Easier,” and “Small Group Share - Bring a Tool to Share”

And, it was Jen’s birthday during CORD so during their night out she helped lead percussion for her birthday serenade. AND, Jennifer Cassidy was presented her CORD Program Coordinator of the Year Award. As CORD AA22 track chair she worked to rebuild the EMARC community and gained a lot of feedback on how the conference could serve them better. She created regional breakout groups that were well received and these will be a core session moving forward for future AA’s. At the end of her presentations there was always 15-20 minutes to discuss and share experiences. Jen said “It was one of my favorite memories from AA22. I also incorporated a EMARC Happy hour during AA22 where we could all visit and get to know each other.”

Andy Grock presented:
- “Beyond Advanced, a Panel on Next level Didactic Skills”
- “Holes in Foam”
- “Slide Design Panel”

Clinical Pathologic Case Competition (CPC) - Tony Fredericks (2023) presented a case of acute renal failure secondary to new diagnosis of Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease that was hypothermic and masquerading as myxedema coma. Max Berger represented as faculty discussant for a case of SOB during a pandemic…turns out it was an aortic dissection.

Abstracts and Posters
Ashley Vuong (2022) presented two abstracts and received a first place award for her novel curriculum innovation.
- A Novel Social Emergency Medicine Curriculum: An Alternative to Lecture-Based Didactics
- Creating a New Social Emergency Medicine Curriculum: A Needs Assessment

Andy Grock “FOAM authorship: Who’s teaching the learners?”
Rose Diaz “The Leaky Pipeline in Emergency Medicine: Understanding Factors Pushing Women Away and Informing Interventions”

Four of our five 2022-2023 Chief Residents (Agatha Brzenzski, Chase Richard, Jared Marshall Caitlin Oldenkamp), attended the conference to learn and build their leadership skills.


Carmen Wolfe co-lectured in the MedTech track “Instagram-success in Residency Recruitment and Education”. 
Congratulations to all the Faculty, Fellows, Residents, Alumni and IDHEAL Faculty Colleagues on your SAEM Lectures and Panels.

Rosemarie Diaz and Jessica Faiz, and co-presenters “Beyond Diversity Recruitment: Next Steps to Ensure That Diverse Emergency Medicine Residents Thrive.”

Jaime Jordan and co-presenters - “Top Medical Education Articles of 2021,” “Moving Beyond Your Front Doors: Best Practices in making Multi-institutional Medical Education Research a Reality,” “If I Knew Then What I Know Now...Mistakes and Lessons Learned in Research,” “Leading and Teaming in Education Scholarship: The Art of Fostering Collaboration,” and “Breaking the Glass Ceiling by Sending Down a Ladder.”


Hannah Janeway and co-presenter, “Rethinking Psychiatric Complaints in the Emergency Department: Legitimizing Diagnoses and Providing Bridging Treatment From the Emergency Room.”


Elizabeth Samuels and co-presenters “First, Reduce Harm: Compassionate and Evidence-Based Emergency Department Management of Substance Use Disorder.”

Carmen Wolfe (2015) and co-presenters, “Women and Negotiation: Five Steps to Success.”


Marc Probst and co-presenters, “So You’re Thinking About an RO1: Roundtable Discussion on Transitioning to an Independent Investigator” and “What Residents Need to Know: Fellowship Roundtable Discussions.”

Kabir Yadav, Roger Lewis and co presenters “Optimizing Management of Traumatic Hemorrhage: Time for a Platform Randomized Clinical Trial.”

Kabir Yadav and co presenters “Leveraging Implementation Science to Drive Quality Improvement” and “Community Engaged Research in Emergency Medicine.”

Robert Rodriguez (1994) participated as one of the big cat’s in the “Lion’s Den 2022: Ninth Annual Real-World Research Proposal Development.”

David Talan (1986) moderated a session “Master Scholars-Infectious Disease.”


Ignite Lecture:

Innovations:
SAEM 2022 In New Orleans continued

Abstracts: Congratulations faculty, residents, medical students, alumni, and IDHEAL members from the West LA VA on their ePosters and oral abstracts!

- Cordova DW, Avra R, Torres JR, Taira BR. A Nursing Perspective on Language Access in the Emergency Department.
- Rodriguez NM, Montoy JC, Mower W, Raja A, Gupta M, Chan V, Wong A, Wilcox J, Rodriguez R. Why Do Physicians order Abdominal/Pelvic Computed Tomography Scans in Blunt Trauma Patients Perceived as Low Risk?

Alumni Abstracts:

- Lee AH, Berlyand Y, Dunn P, Goralnick E, Le L, Raja A, Baugh JJ, Cooper S, Yun B. Level-Loading Emergency Department Medical Admissions via Community Hospital Transfers Within a Health System.
Residents & Faculty Getting out

Getting back to some normalcy, it has been great to see people outside our bubble, enjoy the snow, travel, shows, try some new experiences and to see alumni get together:

- Nate Coggins (2023), John Mark Sawyer (2023) and Chelsea Robinson (2022) got in some ski time at Park City, Utah
- Chelsea also got in some additional climbing and skiing this winter a little closer to home.
- AJ (2024) went skiing at Snowbird
- Taylor James got in some slope time at Mammoth
- Charlene Gaw (2024) traveled to Arizona
- Rebecca Bavolek and Natasha Wheaton took family camping trip together in Death Valley
- The “throuple” John Mark Sawyer (2023), Nate Coggins (2023), and Anthony Fredericks (2023) traveled throughout Italy.
- Residents Ashley Vuong (2022), Chelsea Robinson (2022), Leanne Cook (2024), Alex Daguanno (2022), Anna Nguyen(2022) got together Jan 2022 with a visit from Naseem Moridzadeh (2021) who escaped the snowstorm in NY for sunny Los Angeles.
- Sam Kadera (2013), alumna Tola Johnson-Miniel (2012) and Hollie Sandlin (2014) and friends took a girls trip vacation in the Caribbean.
- Alumnus Torrence Tran (2025) got together with alumni Joe Chan (2015). (They met when Torrence was a scribe.)
- Cristina Villalpando (2025) travelled to Mexico City.
- Chelsea Robinson (2022) traveled to Oregon.
- Micaela Finnegan (2023) and her husband enjoyed some local snow, and then climbing at Mt Whitney, and Red Rock canyon.
- Alex Daguanno (2022) traveled to NY.
- Erica Klemme-Gis and her husband went to see Cirque du Soleil Ovo.
- Torrence Tran (2025) got together with alumni Joe Chan (2015). (They met when Torrence was a scribe.)
- Angelique Tran (2000) celebrated her 50th (looking fantastic) in Cabo with a group of friends, and a costume party.
- Erich Wieshofer (2024) hiked up to Angels Landing.
- Matt Waxman (2007) and son Jacob hiked at the Grand Canyon.
- Nico Pascua (2023) vacationed in Hawaii.
- Rebecca Bavolek and family went to New York for Spring Break.
- Missy Brown (2025) vacationed and enjoyed a hot air balloon ride at Piramides de Teotihuacan.
- Pam Dyne (1995) and Barry enjoyed the Portland area visiting son Zach.
- Erica Klemme brought her daughter for mother’s weekend 37th Annual UCLA Pow Wow.
- Hannah Spungen (2022) had a bachelorette party at a winery in Temecula with many of her classmates in attendance.
- Anna Nguyen (2022) vacationed in Mexico.
- Matt Waxman (2007) and Judy Choe visited Zion National Park.
- Tigrath Ziyeh (2024) vacationed in France and Greece.
- Rebecca Bavolek and family took a much needed end of year vacation in Switzerland.
Alex Dyer (2018) and friend travelled to Utah for some ski time with Stu Goldfarb.
- Staff Brenman (2017), wife Liz and son Holden had a snow play date in Lake Tahoe with Jess Oswald (2018) and son Hunter.
- Nick Miniel (2011) and Tola Johnson (2012) snow day with family.
- Maria Conradt (2019) and her Amelia enjoying a snow day.
- Priscilla Hanudel (2012) and family enjoying Mammoth.
- Claudie Bolduc (2021) enjoying the snow in Vail.
- Li Cui (2019) traveled to Denmark and Finland this winter.
- Carolyn Gates (2014) enjoyed the snow at Heavenly Valley.
- Steff Brenman (2017) and family skiing at Park City, Utah.
- Wendy Lin (2002) and family went skiing at Whistler.
- Aws Al-Abdullah (2020) and his wife getting in some time on the slopes.
- Jackie Kurth (2020) took to the snow at Val d’Isere in France.
- Eric Schallert (2017) and family took their daughter to her first snow visit.
- Former NCSP fellow Kimon Ioannides took Molly out to Mt Baldy and the snow did not slow her down.
- Hollie Sandlin (2014) took her kids blue bird skiing.
- Ali Hussain (2010) and his kids enjoying snow at Kirkwood.
- Andrea Roberts (2002) and family at Deer Valley.
- Brian McNamara (2015) and Veronica traveled through Europe.
- Alumna Carolyn Gates (2014) and Holly Sandlin (2014) recreated a photo from 10 years ago… Happy 40th Holly you look amazing!!
- Varun Shahi (2020) took a trip to Cancun.
- Wendy Lin (2002) traveled to New Mexico and spent spring break in Hawaii.
- Holly Sandlin (2014) took a trip to Mexico with family.
- Priscilla (2012) and Mark Hanudel went to the Super Bowl, and took a family vacation in Italy.
- Gil Shlamovitz (2007) and Tomer took their twins Ben and Maya to Disneyland.
- Andrea Roberts (2002) and family traveled to New Orleans for her 25th year Tulane Medical School graduation anniversary.
- Claudie Bolduc (2021) went to Coachella.
- Josh Troke (2015) and husband Peter traveled across Europe.
- Thomas Hemingway (2006) and wife Brooke traveled in Europe.
- Noah Sugerman (2016), Jake Wilson (2016), Erica and Pravin went to a show at the Greek.
- Tola Johnson (2012) celebrated her 40th with husband Nicke Miniel (2011) and friends.
- Theresa Cheng (2021) and her husband vacationed in Mexico.
- Caroline Humphreys (2021), Claudie Elizabeth (2021) and Jessa Baker (2020) got out together, before Claudie moved to Texas. Claudie also visited New York and caught up with Naseem Moridzadeh (2021).
- Kevin Wroblewski (2021) travelled to the Sahara Desert.
- Aws Al-Abdullah (2020) and Sophia travelled to Banff, Canada.
- Andrea Roberts (2002) and family vacationed in Hawaii.
- Tyler Barrett (2005) and family vacationed in Europe.
- Allison Ferreira (2018), and Tabitha Cheng (2018) had a spa day bachelorette day to celebrate with Andie Takemoto (2018).
IDHEAL Updates and Initiatives

Shamsher Samra (2017) and Hannah Janeway received a seed grant from DGSOM to hold community forums with activist organizations to reimagine healthcare and law and setting policies for law enforcement.

Annette Dekker, Rose Diaz, Jesus Torres and Breena Taira also received a seed grant to evaluate the implementation of trauma recovery centers (TRCs) in four Los Angeles area centers, including OV-UCLA, Harbor-UCLA, and 2 community TRCs.

Several IDHEAL members and social EM projects were presented at CORD and SAEM (check out those pages).

Several IDHEAL members had abstracts presented at National Academies Health, including projects presented by DGSOM medical students Tucker Avra and and Daniel Cordova who completed the GSTTP program under the mentorship of Drs Taira and Torres:
- Tucker A, Cordova D, Taira B, Torres J. Bilingual Certification Pathway for Resident Physician Trainees as a Part of Language Service Delivery.
- Kaplan C, Lam CN, Tsui J, Saluja S, Schneberk T, A xen S. Disparities in Outpatient Care and Televisits Use during the COVID-19 Pandemic Among Patients with Hypertension or Diabetes.

Ultrasound Section Updates

The Annual Integrative Ultrasound Meeting is a multidisciplinary that brings together medical ultrasound users of all levels and specialties to learn, network and share.

Alan Chiem was a featured lecturer for several sessions:
- “Can patients do it? Why? Heart failure patients and lung ultrasound”
- “Home-Use Ultrasound: Considerations and Controversies”
- Alan led a Panel Discussion on Emerging Methods and Applications on the topic of "Home-Use Ultrasound: Considerations and Controversies." It explored the potential of home-based ultrasound, telemedicine, and artificial intelligence, in addressing issues with access to imaging, as well as reducing heart failure admissions. The panelists included a radiologist, a POCUS leader in AI technology, a biomechanical engineer, representatives from the Food & Drug Administration, and Alan.

The UCLA Ultrasound faculty along with some residents and students also present a couple abstract posters:


Brzezinski A, Haase D, Ogawa R, Chiem R. Ultrasound Detected Increase in Optic Disk Height to Identify Elevated Intracranial Pressure: A Preliminary Systematic
Educational Outtakes and Visiting Alumni Lecturers

A Most Interesting Case - Alumni discussing a challenging case they have encountered and delivering some pearls for community practice:

David Morales (2018) a constipated child and a complication of an enema.

Alumni Guest Lecturing

Drew Seefeld (2009) grand rounds “Emotional Sobriety”

Danielle Antonuk (2021) guest lecturing, palliative care # 3 “When to Call a Chaplain or Social Worker”

Jess Oswald (2018) grand rounds Target Directed Analgesia

Tom Akie (2021) OHCA Post ROSC Management

Tabitha Cheng (2018) lectured on OHCA in Pediatrics and also had a discussion about the Formula Shortage and complications of formula exchanges, dilution of formula and more.

Thanks to our EMS colleagues and Atilla Uner for our Hazmat conf day!

ALUMNI - Come teach at our conferences: email Richelle Cooper (1998), and I will connect you with the educational program leadership.
Alumni Updates - Love is in the Air

Claudie Bolduc (2021) and James got engaged.

Chris Belfour (2015) and Michael got married.

Varun Shahi (2020) and Pallvi Poplin got engaged.

Brian McNamara (2015) and Veronica got engaged.

Matt Levin (2020) and Amanda got married, with many of his class in attendance.

Aws Al-Abdullah (2020) and Sophia celebrated their second wedding anniversary.

Wendy Lin (2002) and Bergt celebrated their 14th year wedding anniversary with a vacation in Hawaii.

Mary Sun (2013) and Daniel celebrated their 13th wedding anniversary.

Hannah Janeway and Karina got married.

Vicky Nguyen (2016) and Alex got engaged.

Caroline Gates (2014) and Adam Eromo got married, with some of her UCLA classmates celebrating with them.

Ashley Sanello (2016) and Drew Lofquist got married with many of her classmates and alumni colleagues among her partners at Torrance Memorial.
More Alumni Family Updates

Jason Singer (2020), wife Libby and big sister Layla announce Sydney Eva.

Adam Evans (2018) and wife Anita welcomed baby Audrey.

Mike Merjanian (2019) and wife Kristen welcomed a baby girl Olivia.

Monica Wattana (2012), husband Billy Myles, and Auryn Rae welcomed baby Halcyon Alara.

Cate Yaggi (2020) and husband Bryan had a baby boy named Jack Albert.

Danielle Antonuk (2021) and Joe welcomed a baby boy, Henry, this spring. Matilda enjoys being a big sister and insistent that they call her brother Popcorn.

Emily Huang (2013) and Wade Horst had baby girl Aspen.
Family Updates - Congratulations to Everyone!

Charlene Gaw (2024) and Steve got engaged while backpacking the Trans Catalina Trail.

Amanda Amen (2024) and Ali got engaged.

Hannah Spungen (2022) and Tim got married with any in her class in attendance.

Wyatt Hong (2024) and his wife Seewan Kim had a baby girl Rahyun.

Sima Sadenijad (2024) got engaged and then married a few weeks later to Parham Hekmati.

Ashley Vuong (2022) and Jesse celebrated their 4th wedding anniversary with a trip to Europe.

Noah Sugerman (2105) and Emma celebrated 10 years with a trip to Santa Barbara for some wine tasting.

Ben Chan (2023) and Jeff got engaged in Paris!

David Morales (2018) and Kat got engaged, also in Paris.

Miguel Navarro (2025) and Hillary got married.

Elle Kettler (2025) and Ben Rosenberg finally had a wedding ceremony that was delayed a few years after their wedding… COVID again.

Hannah Spungen (2022) and Tim got married with any in her class in attendance.
Graduation in person at Flame in Santa Monica, unfortunately COVID strikes again and Michelle Brennan, Lizzie Ferreira, and Anna Yap had a quarantine dinner and viewing party while the others celebrated in person. However Michelle, Lizzie and Anna were represented at the dinner with family participating as we recognized all of the graduates. Thanks to AVEMA for sponsoring the event. We are so excited for each of the new alumni to start their new post-residency journeys.

Congratulations to our fellows on their graduation as well: Education fellows Max Berger, and Caroline Humphreys, Research Fellow Annette Dekker, IDHEAL and NCSP fellow Jesus Torres, and NCSP fellow Annette Darby.

Anna Yap 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 2022 going?

Haig Aintablian - UCLA EM’s first Space Medicine Fellow

Michelle Brennan - St Joseph’s in Burbank and Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena, and Kaiser West LA

Ignacio Calles - Education Fellowship at Keck-USC

Genie Como - Kaiser Northern California (Walnut Creek and Antioch)

Alex Daguanno - PIH (Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital) in Whittier and Downey and at the Greater Los Angeles VA

Lizzie Ferreira - PIH (Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital) in Whittier and Downey, and Kaiser West Los Angeles

David Haase - Northridge Hospital, California Medical Center and Antelope Valley Hospital

John Keller - Toxicology Fellow at UCSF

James Murphy - Critical Care Fellowship at Montefiori Medical Center in New York

Anna Nguyen - O’Connor Hospital in San Jose California, part of the Santa Clara County Health System with Emergency Physician Associates (EPA)

Chelsea Robinson - Northern Inyo Hospital in Bishop, California and Jordan Valley Medical Center in West Jordan, Utah

Hannah Spungen - Toxicology Fellowship at Banner Health, University of Arizona

Peter Treut - Beth Israel Deaconess - Plymouth, Massachusetts

Ashley Vuong - Education Fellowship at UCLA EM

Anna Yap - Administrative Fellowship at UCLA EM

Congratulations to the Graduating Fellows of 2022

Education Fellow Caroline Humphreys will be working in Northern California at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, as wells Alameda and San Leandro Hospitals, and she will travel back to Southern California to do some part time work at Olive View-UCLA.

Education Fellow Max Berger will be ***** Information is embargo’d but look to the coming newsletter for information.

IDHEAL/NCSP Fellow Jesus Torres will be joining our UCLA research faculty group.

NCSP Fellow Anna Darby will be returning to where she trained in EM, USC-Keck to be part of the Residency Program Leadership.

Research Fellow Annette Dekker will be joining our UCLA research faculty group.
Class of 2025 Intern Week

Congratulations to the class of 2025 for completing intern year! The group took a much needed class vacation in Rosarito, Mexico together to rest, make some tiktok posts and spend time together before stepping into r2 year.

Class of 2022 Working Their Last Shifts of Residency
Meet the Intern Class of 2026

Name: Melissa Baker
Undergraduate School: University of Washington
Medical School: Georgetown University School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: traveling to new places and visiting old ones to see friends and family!

My hidden talent is: my homemade raviolis!

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: hiking on new trails or eating delicious food whether in a new restaurant or cooked in my kitchen!

If I knew I could not fail I would: I would create new legislation that would allow everyone to have health insurance!

I'm really looking forward to learning to surf when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Rachel Bass
Undergraduate School: UCLA
Graduate School: UCSF
Medical School: Northwestern

My hidden talent is: Knowing every word to popular songs of the early 2000's.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: planning themed parties.

The greatest meal I ever had was: butter.

If I knew I could not fail I would: reopen my favorite chain restaurant and buffet—Souplantation—that closed during COVID.

I could not live without my: daily Mail snapchat stories.

If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: You just hooked yourself a Bass.

I'm really looking forward to a “cold day” being 60 degrees when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Brainard Burrus II
Undergraduate School: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Graduate School: UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School
Medical School: UNC School of Medicine

Before Intern year you can find me: training my black lab mix Layla for her big city debut!

My hidden talent is: keeping the audience clapping on 2 and 4.

When not in the hospital I'm most likely: napping, dancing, chasing squirrels with the pup.

The greatest meal I ever had was: tuna steak fresh off the boat on a cliff side in la cinque terre.

I could not live without my: dog of course! And my keyboard. And this one specific brand of chapstick.

If I knew I could not fail I would: rebuild the entire US healthcare system from scratch.

I'm really looking forward to finally making it as an emergency medicine physician when I am in Los Angeles!
Meet the Intern Class of 2026

Name: Huy “Alex” Duong
Undergraduate School: San Jose State University
Medical School: University of California, Irvine
Before Intern year you can find me: traveling and catching up on sleep.
My hidden talent is: cooking a delicious meal while inebriated.
The greatest meal I ever had was: Chirac Star’s Korean Fried Chicken.
If I knew I could not fail I would: start a cooking or Anime review YouTube channel.
I'm really looking forward to exploring all the delicious eats/drinks and spending time with my co-residents when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Hannah “Claire” Edelson
Undergraduate School: Harvard University
Graduate School: MPH in Global Environmental Health at Rollins School of Public Health
Medical School: Emory University
Before Intern year you can find me: hiking and out on the water at my family’s cottage on Georgian Bay, Canada.
My hidden talent is: irish Dancing.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: outside, gardening, at a brewery with friends, facetiming with my niece, nephews and dog.
The greatest meal I ever had was: fresh caught fish cooked on a beach campfire in Madagascar.
I could not live without my: water bottle.
I'm really looking forward to ending the day with an ocean sunset when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Anh “Annie” Hoang
Undergraduate School: Yale University
Graduate School: Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health
Medical School: UCSF
Before Intern year you can find me: going to Vegas as a graduation trip with my family! Visiting my family in New Jersey.
My hidden talent is: singing! Used to do a lot of a cappella and traveled around the world for it in college.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: looking up the latest skincare and sunscreen products.
I could not live without my: sunscreen!
I'm really looking forward to making new friends and visiting all the recommended restaurants when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Anthony Jourdan
Undergraduate School: Georgetown University
Medical School: Georgetown University School of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: traveling, learning Spanish, trying new restaurants and speakeasies, spending time with my nephew, and being the best man in my best friend’s wedding!
My hidden talent is: I passed the United States Tennis Association coaching certification.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: catching up on TV, recreating recipes from social media, or going for a run/bike along the closest body of water.
The greatest meal I ever had was: fish Tacos at Blue Water Seafood in San Diego.
If I knew I could not fail I would: coach the New York Knicks myself-- the past 20 years have been rough.
I could not live without my: car! I've never had a pet so my car gets the royal treatment from me.
I'm really looking forward to going to Lakers, Dodgers, and Rams games when I am in Los Angeles!

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If I knew I could not fail I would: coach the New York Knicks myself-- the past 20 years have been rough.
I could not live without my: car! I've never had a pet so my car gets the royal treatment from me.
I'm really looking forward to going to Lakers, Dodgers, and Rams games when I am in Los Angeles!
Meet the Intern Class of 2026

Name: Aubrey Kelly
Undergraduate School: Xavier University of Louisiana
Medical School: David Geffen School of Medicine @ UCLA / Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science
Before Intern year you can find me: Shopping on Melrose & Fairfax Avenues.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: Taking a delicious nap!
The greatest meal I ever had was: A FREE $650 dinner at Tao with Drake's DJ.
I could not live without my: Noise-cancelling headphones.
I'm really looking forward to strengthening my commitment to the deserving, yet underserved patients I fell in love with as a medical student when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Ruthy Mamo
Undergraduate School: University of California, Irvine
Graduate School: Tulane University
Medical School: Meharry Medical College
Before Intern year you can find me: traveling, hiking, journaling
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: spending time with friends and family, preferably beachside!
The greatest meal I ever had was: when I returned home from the holidays and my mom made me favorite Ethiopian dish, Doro Wat!
If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: bridging the gap, one step at a time
I'm really looking forward to being closer to family and soaking up the warm sun when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Kevin Martinez (KMart)
Undergraduate School: University of Guam
Medical School: University of Hawaii, John A Burns School of Medicine
My hidden talent is: playing guitar somewhat decently.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: enjoying the comfort of my bed, where somehow gravity seems to increase by 10-fold.
If I knew I could not fail I would: create world peace/happiness and end world hunger and all those other great but seemingly impossible things... What - don't give me that look, you said that I wouldn't fail at whatever thing I chose to do.
I could not live without my: my smart tracking devices; I have them placed on my keys, ear phones, watch, and other important items. I frequently use the smartthings find feature when looking for something, especially when leaving the house. I honestly don't know how I made it this far before their invention (whoever created this deserves a Nobel prize).
If I were running for office my campaign slogan would be: your mind says yes, and your heart also says yes
I'm really looking forward to Disneyland. I was told by my classmates and professor that I would probably explode from happiness if I went there... hopefully that actually doesn't happen. I'm also looking forward to the highly talked about food scene (especially Mexican food), which apparently can't be rivaled anywhere else... when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Robert Roach “Rob”
Undergraduate School: Mercer University
Medical School: Mercer University School of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: getting married to the love of my life! Then honeymooning in Mexico.
My hidden talent is: the ability to chill. It's an art.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: trying to be a good cat dad, reading, walking, running, sleeping, eating.
If I knew I could not fail I would: fly.
I could not live without my: library.
Meet the Intern Class of 2026

Name: Cherokee Sauer
Undergraduate School: University of Texas at Arlington
Medical School: Texas A & M College of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: hanging out with friends or traveling.
My hidden talent is: long boarding.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: solving crime...by watching true-crime documentaries.
The greatest meal I ever had was: tacos El Gordo in Las Vegas.
If I knew I could not fail I would: ski down a double black diamond.
I could not live without my: two Special needs cats.
I’m really looking forward to my co-residents, good food, & concerts when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Sarah Seresinghe
Undergraduate School: UC Santa Barbara
Graduate School: Master of Public Health, Case Western Reserve University Dept of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences
Medical School: Case Western
Before Intern year you can find me: dancing, sleeping, hanging with my friends/fam as much as possible!
My hidden talent is: tennis.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: spending time outdoors, working out, hanging with my people, or out dancing to house music!
The greatest meal I ever had was: the restaurant buffet at Jetwing Yala in Sri Lanka.
If I knew I could not fail I would: become a music producer/dj and headline Tomorrowland.
I could not live without my: mom.
I'm really looking forward to being within driving distance from my family and the beach when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Daniel Sholder “Dan”
Undergraduate School: Villanova University
Medical School: Tulane University School of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: hiking Patagonia and traveling around Chile or bumming it on a beach in Florida. In my spare time, I’ll be squeezing in festival season in New Orleans.
The greatest meal I ever had was: homemade Italian food (including wine!) while studying abroad. I also really enjoy a good crawfish boil.
If I knew I could not fail I would: go on Survivor or travel to space.
I could not live without my: dog, Ollie.
I’m really looking forward to never running out of new places to explore or food to try when I am in Los Angeles!

Name: Sophia Tiene
Undergraduate School: University California at Santa Barbara
Medical School: David Geffen UCLA School of Medicine
Before Intern year you can find me: rotating in the ER in Cape Town, South Africa.
My hidden talent is: I’m a champ at falling asleep.
When not in the hospital I'm most likely: At the dog park.
The greatest meal I ever had was: homemade chicken noodle soup; Crispy rice salad @ Night + Market; French onion soup @ Violet Bistro or Cafe Stella; Northern Thailand Curry, or the Thursday Special @ Empty Bowl, Santa Barbara; truck stop tortas, Ensenada, Mexico; Le pulê, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
I could not live without my: animals 🐕 🐶

Thanks to David Schriger for hosting the welcome BBQ, and thanks to each of the other resident classes for holding socials - class of 2024 Beach Day with the interns, class of 2023 the throuple (Nate Coggins, Anthony Fredericks, and John Mark) ghosted and cooked at their place, and class of 2025 back from intern week off in Mexico hosted a BBQ at the home several of the class of 2025 share.
KUDOS to Our Amazing Faculty, Fellows, Residents and Alumni

Congratulations to **David Talan (1986)** for being selected two recipe the SAEM “Excellence in Research Award” and being recognized at SAEM 2022 during the plenary session.

**Excellence in Research Award**
David A. Talan, MD
University of California Los Angeles

Congratulations to our new intern **Sarah Seresinghe (2026)** for her medical school recognition “Excellence in Public Health Award” given by the US Public Health Service Physician Professional Advisory Committee in recognition of demonstrated commitment to public health and public health practice.

Congratulations to our new intern **Annie Hoang (2026)** who was awarded the “2022 ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award.” The award recognizes up to ten fourth year EM-bound medical students who excel in humanism/professionalism, leadership/service to medical organizations, community service, research, and academic excellence. Awesome!

Congratulations to **Carolyn Sachs (1994)** who was elected to the CalACEP board! She was also elected as a Councilor. She joins **Valerie Norton (1995)** and AVEMA partner **Michael Gertz** representing us.

Anna Yap (2022) was elected Speaker for the Resident and Fellows Section at the Annual Chicago AMA meeting at the beginning of June. She also advocated for multiple resolutions and helped the AMA pass fantastic progressive policies, such as a policy calling on the medical industry to divest from fossil fuels, calling climate change a public health crisis, affirming that abortion care is a human right, and so many other AMAzing policies. Anna said “I’m proud of the work we’re doing at the house.” You can [read more about the resolutions and policies passed](#) at the AMA annual meeting online.

**Judy Choe** received her John Wooden award from the UCLA Anderson School of Management at a 600+ attendee gala. The John Wooden Award is awarded to students chosen for demonstrates leadership styles that espouse ethics, team spirit, hard work and loyalty.
Reza Hessabi (2024) was elected to be co-President of the Minority Housestaff Organization at UCLA.

For the CMA and Cal ACEP legislative day in April Anna Yap (2022) went to the capitol for their first in person legislative day since before the pandemic! While on the CMA board she has been woking to pass critical changes to MICRA that protects physicians and patients. Anna also testified in the California legislature for AB2098, working to ensure that we as a profession protect patients and the public from physicians who spread disinformation.

Congratulations to Judy Choe for completing her MBA at UCLA Anderson School of Management.

Charlene Gaw (2024) presented “Standardizing Approaches to Geriatric care in the ED using an AMS Order Set” at the 9th 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. The program started in 2013, and recruits a new cohort each academic year. Trainees meet at least monthly for didactic sessions over the course of the year. Charlene was one of the 182 accepted among 355 applicants (51% acceptance rate), and one of the ** selected to present their work at the symposium.

Santano Rosario (2023) was selected to join the resident informatics program for the coming year.

The UCLA Minority Health Organization and GME sponsored Christian Hernandez (2025) to attend the 17th Annual Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) National Conference and 49th Annual LMSA Northeast Regional Conference in Philadelphia, PA. This great opportunity led to him applying for and being elected to the LMSA Community and Professional Development Committee.

He was also recently elected to the National Hispanic Medical Association as their national Professional Development Coordinator too.

Way to go!

Chase Richard (2023) represented UCLA at SNMA this year, and he ran into incoming intern Ruthy Malmo (2026).

Anna Yap (2022) and Kenneth Kim (2025) traveled for the first in person legislative lobby day in Sacramento since COVID-19. They represented the resident union CIR (Committee of Interns and Residents) advocating for health equity in our state and working to ensure access to care for our patients. Specifically advocating for funding for primary care graduate medical education.
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 2021-2022 UCLA/Olive View Faculty Teaching Award for the second half of the year at Reagan and Olive View are:

Michael Levine, MD & Jackie Shibata MD

Congratulations to these amazing teachers!

The awardees for the 2022 UCLA Ronald Reagan-Olive View Emergency Medicine Residency Medical Student Teaching Awards are:

Class of 2022 - Ignacio Calles
Class of 2023 - Anthony Fredericks
Class of 2024 - Tig Ziyeh
Class of 2025 - Drew Robinett

Applause for these Award Winners!

The Golden Olive Teaching Award presented at the annual spring retreat are voted on by the residents for the contributions to teaching.

The award for the full time faculty went to Amir Rouhani.

The award for the part time faculty went to Stephen Villa.

Jennifer Cassidy was named the 2022 Council of Residency Directors (CORD) Residency Coordinator of the Year! We are so lucky to have her and so glad she was recognized at the Annual CORD Assembly.

Jennifer is the Emergency Medicine Association of Residency Coordinators (EMARC) Chair, the CORD Board of Directors EMARC Liaison and the CORD Academic Assembly EMARC Track Chair. Jennifer has been innovating as EMARC Chair, “working hard with building a consistent structure within our EMARC community so no matter who is in the leadership positions EMARC can stay afloat. We have an EMARC Chair, EMARC Vice-Chair, Immediate past AA23 Track chair, AA23 track chair, and AA23 junior track chair. Our EMARC leadership team has a SLACK account now that we can communicate better and discuss projects. I have built an EMARC resource dashboard where all Emergency Medicine coordinators can reference and use each other as a resource. It will be nice to know who works on which systems, are they a 3 or 4 year residency, do they wear any other hats (fellowship or GME), etc.”

Angelique Campen (2000) accepted the Heroes of Burbank Award for the

Providence Saint Joseph Emergency Department, from the Burbank Chamber of Commerce Excellence Awards April 2022.

Rebecca Bavolek is the Junior Conference Chair for CORD Academic Assembly 2022 and busy with planning as the lead conference chair for CORD AA23!

American College of Medical Toxicology

Michael Levine gave an oral platform presentation at American College of Medical Toxicology’s annual meeting: “Prevalence of adulterants in acute opioid toxic patients.”

He was given the Best Research Abstract Award for 2022 from the Toxicology Investigators Consortium (ToxIC).
Times have changed and while we have all adapted, residency training and the experience has changed. COVID, boarding and more. Our residents continually rise to the challenge despite these issues and while we cannot offer hazard pay or combat pay bonuses to residents we worked (within the restrictions of the UC system) to show our appreciation. Unlike in years past with a resident appreciation day gift to coincide with the in-training exam we decided to spread things out. Resident Appreciation Day 1 Jan 2022, with the resident room decorated by Jen Cassidy and Matt Hill, and some small gifts/swag. February, in training exam day, and the residents received some new swag (hats) and then March 2 on resident appreciation day their space was also decorated and we gave them some more appreciation gifts. Some new jackets are also coming. The residents also got some social media thanks for their continual dedication and efforts.

The Los Angeles Kings also showed their appreciation for UCLA Health and offered free tickets to staff.

Congratulations! Carolyn Sachs (1994) was named one of the Top 50 Peer Reviewers for *Annals of Emergency Medicine* in 2021. This award is selected based on outstanding timeliness, quality of reviews, volume of reviews, and other factors. Those awarded this honor are listed in the April 2022 journal issue.

The 2021-2022 Bannister Award leaders given by the UCLA Stroke Neurology QI team was Haig Aintablian (2022) for fastest Door-to-Needle time.

The 2021-2022 Bannister Award leaders given by the UCLA Stroke Neurology QI team was Haig Aintablian (2022) for fastest Door-to-Needle time.

Pam Dyne (1995) has been named the Chief Wellness Officer for the Olive View - UCLA Medical Center. This is a new position and she has taken a course to be certified as a CWO. This is in addition to her recent training to be a certified life coach and thus she brings not only her experiences, and years of work as program director and DIO (Designated Institutional Officer) for all the residency programs at Olive View. She will transition out of the GME office for this new role. She is excited for the new opportunity.

Judy Choe was selected as a Senior Quality Officer, and will be working closely with other senior quality officers, and advisors, including Dr. Chris Saigal, Lloyd Provost, Moira Inkelas, Uma Kotagel, UCLA Health leaders, and attend the Annual IHI Hospital Flow Conference later this fall.
Care Harbor’s mission is to promote the health and well-being of underserved populations by creating new pathways to accessible, sustainable care. UCLA Health was a Presenting Sponsor of annual Care Harbor Free Health Clinic in March 2022 that provided free medical, dental and vision care to thousands of uninsured and underinsured people in our communities. “For those who live without access to the care they need, this is a destination for help and hope.” UCLA EM and our Homeless health care champions helped provide care at the event including nurses Marcia Bubash, Kerry Gold, Shiou Udagawa, Jonathan and Nancy Vega and physicians Medell Briggs-Malonson, and Cat Weaver (2017). Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell recognized the efforts of our UCLA providers.

Tom Lee’s CPI international and local partner Green Hill installed 62 solar-powered street lamps to light up toilets, bathing stations and wash facilities.

In another collaboration CPI and local partner Green Hill developed a new Biogas plant in Doria Nagar, Bangladesh - kitchen and toilet waste is used to produce free cooking gas for the community, which both allows the families to save money and not buy liquid petroleum and decreases the need for firewood and home air pollution.

Haig Aintablian (2022) continues his advocacy work for the AAEM/RSA Board of Directors and at the April 2022 Annual Assembly was a featured speaker as part of an “Advocacy and Workforce EM Panel. Haig was also recognized for his years of service on the AAEM Board of Directors.

California congressional representatives Juan Vargas, Sara Jacobs, Raul Ruiz, Mark Takano and Katie Porter visited RHA personally at the Tijuana shelters to learn about the kinds of challenges that these migrants face.

Matt Waxman (2007) and Kareem Agunbiade taught ultrasound and provided care and Cooper Aakhus (2024) spent some time to help as well. Matt is also on the Board of Directors of the organization.

Refuge Health Alliance has been taking outreach into the community taking healthcare beyond the clinic confines.
Medell Briggs-Malonson spoke about equity in healthcare at an invited talk as part of Nasim Afsar’s Cerner Health Speaker Series.


David Talan (1986) gave the keynote address at Europe’s ACEP like annual meeting, URGENCES 2022 in Paris “What I learned Studying Infectious Diseases in Emergency Medicine.”

Britt Guest (2019) was a featured speaker at SEMPA (Society for Emergency Medicine Physician Assistants) annual 360 conference in Las Vegas - “Chest Pain in Pregnancy” and “Precipitous Deliveries.”

Annette Dekker gave grand rounds for the Duke EM Residency “Care for Immigrants in the ED”

Michael Levine gave several grand round lectures to different groups: “Putin: Not a good guy - a history of poisonings.” Western Toxicology Fellows Conference. La Jolla, California.


“Toxicicology cases involving suicides.” Los Angeles County Medical Examiners.

“Snake envenomations.” Los Angeles Zoo.

Rebecca Bavolek lectured at Northwest Seminars Lake Tahoe:

“Chest Pain in Pregnancy”
“But We’re NOT a Trauma Center”
“Trauma Care of the Pregnant Patient”
“Procedural Sedation in Vulnerable Patients”
“Emergency Delivery: How Should I Be Prepared”
“What to Do When the Baby is Blue”
“Urgent Care: Steroids Edition”

The conference provided down time for some skiing and axe throwing.

Still learning to live and adapt to the changing variants of the COVID-19 pandemic and waiting for the endemic phase. Mel Herbert (1995), Britt Guest (2019), Sara Crager (2015), and UCLA research fellow Annette Dekker and other EM:RAP regulars helped us with updates. Be aware of compassion fatigue - have compassion for yourself and self care.
Dave Talan (1986) has not slowed down in his “retirement.” As Emeritus he continues to attend a few shifts a month at Ronald Reagan UCLA and has developed the recurring conference education Advanced ID series for our residents, trainees and faculty.

He has been moving several of his grants from OV-UCLA to RR-UCLA, and increasing collaboration between our sites. There are two new projects that will involve RR-UCLA. First is the continuation of the CDC surveillance of Health Care Providers COVID Infection through a study with UCLA Occupational Health. The team was just funded (again) from the CDC for directing the multicentered surveillance and study of vaccine/booster prevention effectiveness for US HCP Covid infection, $5.9 million. Emergency Department Sentinel Network for Surveillance of Emerging Infections - Preventing Emerging Infections through Vaccine Effectiveness Testing - COVID [PREVEnT COVID] Project II.

In another project and collaboration with UCLA Dr. Omai Gardner, David is working on testing a new micro-technique in ED sepsis patients that would speed identification and antibiotic susceptibility results from 2-3 days to within 8 hours which would greatly improve patient outcomes and antibiotic stewardship.

Congratulations to David Talan, Greg Moran (1992), and Anusha Krishnadasan, for the 5th consecutive CDC grant renewal for the EMERGEcy ID NET. That is more than 20 years of continual support of the multi-center network. Current projects include studies of diagnostic and treatment approaches to acute diverticulitis and development of a rapid molecular test for patients with r/o septic joint. Potential future projects being considered are a new surveillance for what appears to be emerging staph TMP/SMX resistance and examining the usefulness of past microbiology results in the EMR to more accurately choose an in vitro-active antibiotic to treat UTI.

David and his collaborators are starting a pilot study at OV-UCLA of staphylococcal toxin immunology associated with recurrent staphylococcal skin infections funded by a $3.4 million NIAID grant that will eventually lead to a multicenter ED-based trial of a new staph toxoid vaccine to prevent recurrent infection.

Look out for additional secondary CODA trial analysis of the use and safety of outpatient antibiotic management of patients with appendicitis (done in 90% of OV-UCLA antibiotic-randomized patients) in JAMA Network Open July 1.

David is also working to try and get ACEP to fund an EM-CDC EIS fellowship.

Chuck Pozner (1995) retired from BWH. He has started a new set of adventures, now working with the company EBSCO that does library database and journal distribution work. He works for their publishing arm as a physician consultant helping them with their point of care products. Dynamed is their key product and a major competitor to UpToDate. He is finding this new work really fun and the things he does for them are valued, people are happy and friendly. He is also working with a private medical group helping them develop a large medical education center of which simulation is one piece. In addition, during his “retirement” he is also the CMO of a start-up that is about to go for series A funding in their development of a garment that uses textiles to capture diagnostic quality 12-lead ECGs without wires or sticky electrodes and transmits them anywhere in the world over the internet in real time. It has many applications, both in-patient and outpatient. It also has 128 channels so once the ECG is done they can do the same

Naresh Ramarajan (2014) and his colleague Gitika Srivistava were awarded “Bostonians of the year 2021” at the end of last year for the covid relief efforts. This was an incredible recognition of all the work that went into it from Antelope Valley and other funders last year.

June 2022, they launched their software Navya, which helps oncologists make faster treatment decisions for cancer patients, with several academic US cancer centers, including Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York and City of Hope in Los Angeles. Their patient services and clinical informatics work continues in India, and has come full circle back to Los Angeles.
Ilene Claudius (2002) was a featured speaker at the 28th Annual AAEM Scientific Assembly in Baltimore April 2022. Her lectures included “PEM Literature Update” and “5 Top Pediatric XR Findings Not to Miss.”

Angelique Campen (2000) was recognized for her dedication and work with the Providence Southern California Philanthropy Physician Champion Award.

Bruins Against Fentanyl OD updates - The group has their social media up and running, with education and outreach to the undergrad community. A huge kudos to Michelle Brennan (2022) for spearheading this effort which is a collaborative with our undergraduate research volunteers (the Emergency Medicine Research Associates - EMRA). Loren Rauch (AVEMA partner) provided a video message as part of the educational content and outreach. The group held free fentanyl test kit and naloxone distribution on bruin walk and on Strathmore and Gayley.

Britt Guest (2019), in addition to her role in WoopWoop productions, is on the editorial board for EM:RAP study guides - a reading and learning guide following the EM Model of Clinical Practice using EM:RAP resources to create a fully integrated educational experience. She is host of EM:RAPs COVID Updates - live videocast, and she is an EM:RAP daily dose content contributor and core faculty - Short educational videos released daily that provide spaced repetition of content that has been recently released in CorePendium, EM:RAP, EMA and board review.

Caitlin Oldenkamp (2023), Agatha Brzezinski (2023), Ethan Forsgren (2023) and IDHEAL fellow Rose Diaz volunteered in the medical tent at the LA Marathon this past March. Caitlin and Agatha’s station was at race miles 19 and 25 (the race course doubled back on itself). They saw 200+ patients and transferred 3 to local ERs via EMS. Ethan led the team at mile 10, and Rose at mile 12.


Eric Savitsky (1995) was featured in a June 2022 NPR National Digital Feed story “This is how handguns and assault weapons affect the human body.” He was also granted another USPTO inventor patent for a “System and Method for Extended Spectrum Ultrasound Training Using Animate and Inanimate Training Objects.” In his spare time he still finds time to enjoy the southern California surf.
In the Media....

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the media has turned to physicians to provide commentary and advice. Across the country and locally in Los Angeles the media has repeatedly turned to emergency medicine physicians for their expertise, and the UCLA Alumni can be seen on all the local news stations on an almost daily basis.

Armand Dorian (2003) continues his discussions of COVID for the audience who watches EXTRATV.

Angelique Campen (2000) has been on several news broadcasts for local Los Angeles News including CBS Channel 2, KCAL9 news, and KTTLA Channel 5.

Medell Briggs-Malonson was part of a panel with several celebrities talking about women’s health on Sis Speak, a show on Oprah’s OWN network.

Cat Weaver (2017) Interim Medical Director for the UCLA Homeless Healthcare Collaborative was interviewed at Care Harbor, and recognized in the UCLA News briefing.

Eric Snyder (2008) was featured on KABC7 in Los Angeles, and his discussion was re-run on ABC World News Tonight with David Muir.

Angelique Campen (2000) has been on several news broadcasts for local Los Angeles News including CBS Channel 2, KCAL9 news, and KTTLA Channel 5.

Michael Levine was featured on local KABC7 news a couple talking about rattlesnake envenomations, as well as on Fox21 Colorado Springs.

February 2022 Theresa Cheng (2021) published an OpED in The San Francisco Chronicle “COVID is racing through immigration centers - and it’s putting the entire country at risk.”


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In the Media….

April 2022, David Schriger and Michael Wilkes published an Op-Ed in the Los Angeles Times to spotlight attention on the UC practices with regards to caring for the state’s Medicaid insured population.

Priscilla Hanudel (2012) has been featured on multiple newscasts for local channels including on KCAL9, KABC7, Fox 11 news, Channel 2 CBS Los Angeles news, Channel 4 NBC Los Angeles and Telemundo.

February 2022 Theresa Cheng (2021) published an OpED in The San Francisco Chronicle “COVID is racing through immigration centers - and it’s putting the entire country at risk.”


Anthony Cardillo (2006) continues to be a regular contributor to the local KABC7 news broadcast answering questions for the anchors and the public… COVID19, monkey pox, etc.

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Medell Briggs Malonson hosted and moderated the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 2nd Annual Health Symposium with a panel of expert thought leaders from public health, technology, policy and health care to discuss the actions needed and changes that must be made within our medical, social, structural, and political systems to achieve optimal health for everyone. If you missed the event, you can watch and listen.

Medell Briggs Malonson was a featured panelist at a UCLA Fielding School of Public Health forum on the intersection of homelessness and health. She discussed UCLA initiatives to address health needs for this vulnerable group and the ongoing challenges. Several UCLA faculty, fellows and former fellows have been taking the opportunity to provide services as part of the UCLA Homeless Health Collaborative (HHC) - Medell Briggs-Malonson, Cat Weaver (2017), Annette Dekker, Carolyn Sachs (1994), Natasha Wheaton, Hannah Janeway, Daniel Weingrow have all been part of the street team. Marcia Santini-Bubash and Nancy Vega two of our UCLA EM nurses for more than 20 years retired from EM to turn their attention to being part of the regular care team going out to help provide street care. Nurses Shiou and Jonathan have also been involved. Cat Weaver (2017) has been leading the innovations and outreach as interim director for the UCLA HHC. The HHC has mobile units that travel throughout LA providing urgent care and primary care services to people experiencing homelessness in streets, encampments, shelters, tiny homes, etc. The vans are always staffed by an attending physician (EM, FM, or IM), nurse, and social worker and are stocked with an assortment of meds for dispensation, wound care supplies, and a variety of point of care lab tests (hemoglobin, glucose, HgbA1C, BMP, CMP, UA, pregnancy, influenza, strep, COVID). We can refer ED patients for wound checks, medication titration, reassessments, etc and the team will follow-up the patients post ED discharge.

UCLA Health has an online feature article on our Space Medicine fellowship, highlighting fellowship director Jo Feldman, and our first fellow Haig Antablian (2022). Since then there has been a full media junket.

The news brief was picked up by various outlets and led to a Good Day LA (FOX 11 news) feature and interview of Haig. The news station plans to follow-up with more interviews over the year. The news brief was also picked up by multiple other news outlets nationwide. Great work Haig for this work when he was still a resident before starting his fellowship and a special shout out to Jo Feldman for her leadership as fellowship director and for Greg Hendey (1993) and Jo's vision in this endeavor.

The attention has led to many other speaking engagements and interest, including interviews on CBS news and other outlets. Haig has also been speaking to other groups including at a virtual event for pre-medical and medical students interested in space medicine sponsored by the Georgetown Chapter of the Aerospace Medicine Student and Resident Organization, and at an event with Chicago Medical School. He was the featured speaker at Glendale Community College for their science lecture series. Following Astronaut Mark Thomas Vande Hei’s return from a record-breaking 355 days in low-Earth orbit on the Space Station in April, Good Day LA (FOX 11 news) interviewed Haig to discuss some of the effects of space exposure.

Equally exciting was the shout out he got at Pauley Pavilion, and a feature in the Daily Bruin (UCLA’s school newspaper).

For good measure he went to the Roswell UFO festival to get prepared for fellowship start.
Jared Marshall (2023) and Michael Levine published three chapters in EM:RAP CorePendium on pediatric cardiology topics including Congenital long QT, HOCM, and Pediatric Dysrhythmias and WPW.

Research fellow Annette Dekker led the Advocacy Subsection of SAEM’s Social EM Population Health Interest Group. As part of this, she partnered with a local organization in New Orleans called VOTE to host a panel of formerly incarcerated individuals discussing care during and after incarceration at SAEM’s Annual meeting. She is also part of the REACH committee at UCLA. She has been working on a variety of projects, including geospatial mapping of medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder in California, examination of deaths in ICE detention, and she is leading an effort to examine the implementation of trauma recovery centers.


Annie Hoang (2026) published an article on environmental work exposures and risk in Environmental Health News (EHN). She also published two agents of change podcast episodes with EHN on safer work/built environments and farmworker justice in California.

Christian Hernandez (2025) lectured for the Wisconsin Department of Public Health. The lecture to around 100 people - public health professionals, epidemiologists and other physicians - centered around how chronic disease management has evolved in the face of infectious disease outbreaks and more recently COVID.

Tahlia Spector (2005) is the new Longitudinal Clinical Experience (LCE) Director in the UCLA DGSOM HEALS curriculum - the MS3 Discovery Year. She is also continuing as one of the many UCLA EM faculty who are an Educator for Excellence (E4E) this year. She has a revised book chapter, Remediation of Physical Exam Skills in the new edition of Remediation in Medical Education: A Mid-Course Correction, pending publishing by Springer.


Jake Lentz (2019) spent some time in Hawaii as part of his military reserves work recently and was able to catch up with alumni David Kim (2018) who has been working in EM and critical care, one of the handful of ECMO providers on the island.

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Great Work!
January 19, 2022 the California State Assembly Emergency Management committee met to address the impact of ambulance patient offload delays (APODs) on emergency response. There were several who gave virtual testimony including Clayton Kazan (2005) presenting as Medical Director of the Los Angeles County Fire Department and President of the California Chapter of the National Association of EMS Physicians, AVEMA partner Lawrence Stock representing CalACEP and member of the EMSA APOD task force, and Atilla Uner (1997) Chair of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority EMS Commission gave phone testimony. The hearing was taped and available for download or viewing.

Tiffany (Hackett) Ferreri (2004) spent the past year training to become an executive and personal coach. Having completed over 100 hours of education toward this goal, she then embarked on the certification process. Her new company “Greenhouse Executive Coaching” is open for business and looking for clients.

She also continues working in the ED in Northern California and executive Director of Leadership Development as a physician partner at Vituity.

So you ask who are her “typical” coaching clients? People like you - executives, leaders, professionals, entrepreneurs, partners, parents … who are looking to move the needle and create change. Coaching is not limited to work, but rather we focus on the whole client addressing where you are and where you want to go. By leveraging your talents and wisdom, coaching accelerates you clarifying and achieving your goals.

What can coaching help you do? Elevate and advance your career; better lead your team; change how things are done; shift gears; get unstuck; get organized; prepare for what’s next; build and grow your business.

A little bit about coaching from Tiff: Coaching is the process of inquiry, pathfinding and problem solving that is tailored to an individual’s goals, ambitions and values. The process is confidential, free from judgment or the belief that “there is only one way” to proceed. Ideal coaching clients have a dream and/or something they want to work on (be a better manager, start their own side gig, get a promotion, tackle a daunting project, navigate a life/work change….). Together we explore what’s important to them (values), what fulfills them and often look at situations from different perspectives. Through coaching and commitment to change from the client, things shift into focus, traction is made and the client moves forward. I welcome the opportunity to share with our colleague(s) the coaching experience via a sample session so they can learn what it’s all about, see if the chemistry is right and go from there. Please have them reach out to me via phone/text, email or my web site to set up a sample session. I have completed the CoActive Coaching Course and by the time this is published, will have finished their Coaching Certification Training.”

Interested in knowing more, email: tiffany@greenhouseexecutivecoaching.com

Ray Johnson (1984) is the current Secretary Treasurer for the American Board of Emergency Medicine. He wants to extend an invitation to any and all of the alumni who may want to get involved in the emergency medicine certification process. “We are always looking to get practicing emergency physicians from diverse backgrounds and interests involved in being oral examiners, participating as exam item writers, research, etc. Email me anytime. Keep up the good work.”
Congratulations to Steven Go (1994), UMKC Professor of Emergency Medicine, for being awarded the Edith J. Levit Distinguished Service Award at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) in recognition of his more than twenty years of dedicated service to NBME.

“Established in 1983, the Distinguished Service Award is named in honor of former NBME President and CEO Edith J. Levit, who served from 1977 to 1986. Recipients of the award are selected from individuals retiring from NBME’s membership and others who have served NBME exceptionally in their dedication to research related to the evaluation of health professionals.

Dr. Go has served on numerous test material development committees, computer case simulation committees, interdisciplinary review committees, forms review committees, task forces, the NBME Board, and the USMLE Management Committee. NBME staff have praised him as “a gem of a committee volunteer” and as “an expert clinician, educator, and facilitator who leads by example.”

Adam Landman (2008) has been named Chief Information Officer and Senior Vice President of Digital for Massachusetts General Brigham. In this role, Adam will leverage his expertise in health information technology and digital health design, development, and implementation to ensure the highest level of digital access and service across the system. A key area of focus for Adam will be on digital innovation, beginning with a system of governance for internal and external emerging technologies, allowing the institution to quickly evaluate the value for their patients, care teams, researchers, and employees, and implement promising solutions at scale.

Since November 2021, Adam has served as interim Chief Information Officer for Mass General Brigham, leading technology solution delivery and support across all Mass General Brigham hospitals and practices. Adam has held progressive leadership roles in technology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) over the past 12 years, including Chief Information Officer, Chief Medical Information Officer for Health Information Innovation and Integration, and Emergency Department Director of Clinical Informatics. He is an associate professor of emergency medicine at Harvard Medical School and an attending emergency physician at BWH. After completing residency in our program, Adam was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar at Yale University, where he also received his master of health sciences. Adam completed graduate degrees in information systems and health care policy and management at Carnegie Mellon University. (Are you counting degrees ... that is an MD, MS, MIS, MHS.)

Way to go Adam! Congratulations on all your success and recognition.

Vicky Nguyen (2016) accepted a position as a Rural System Director in Colorado with her group (USACS). She hopes to align their subspecialties and work on major rural issues such as transfers, transportation, etc.

Congratulations “Ray Jay” Ramon Johnson (1984) who was awarded the 2022 ACEP Council Champion of Diversity and Inclusion Award.

Craig Goolsby (2008) was selected to receive the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association “Outstanding Recent Graduate Award.”

Craig received a M.Ed. degree at Johns Hopkins in 2016 when he was an Associate Professor and attending at Uniformed Services University. The award is intended to honor graduates of the past decade. “This prestigious award reflects the gratitude and appreciation … toward those alumni …who exemplify the Johns Hopkins tradition of excellence through outstanding achievements in their professional or volunteer lives. Your leadership and vision are a source of great pride for us and truly worth celebrating.”

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Jason Singer (2021) and family will be moving to Washington DC to be closer to family. Jason will be working at Kaiser and Libby who completed her cardiology training will be working at Inova.
USC Trailblazer: Parveen Parmar

The 50-year anniversary of Title IX has presented a great opportunity for Dr. Parveen Parmar to reflect on how much has changed and how much still needs to change.

“It’s wonderful that Title IX has hit 50 years,” said Parmar, Associate Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine and Chief of Global Emergency Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. “It’s a nice opportunity to stop, look back and think about the world and where we were 50 years ago and how much has changed. And it’s great to have that framework to look forward to where we want to be.”

Parmar is well-versed in the importance of Title IX at USC and specifically at the Keck School of Medicine, where she also holds the position of Director of the Center for Gender Equity in Medicine and Science (GEMS). Founded in 2019, the Center promotes a climate of gender equity and safety for all by encouraging culture change and by establishing processes and best practices for achieving gender equity in recruitment, faculty development, and across the career spectrum.

While leading GEMS, Parmar has noticed a palpable difference in the school’s culture and practices. There are more diversity and gender-identity initiatives and there’s better representation of female-identifying individuals in leadership roles, particularly with the recent hire of Dr. Carolyn Meltzer as dean. Improvements have been made in awareness and sensitivity around transgender issues and there are now regular training sessions for various divisions within Keck, system changes that allow for different gender identities, and greater advocacy from Keck LGBTQ+ groups.

“There’s been a great deal of support and universal interest in making this a better place for people of all gender identities,” Parmar said. “It feels like a really different space and that gives us a lot of hope.”

Parmar’s work on gender equity extends beyond Keck. She co-chairs the USC NASEM (National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine) Action Collaborative on Sexual Harassment working group with Catherine Spear, USC Vice President for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX (EEO-TIX) and Title IX Coordinator. Established in 2019 as an outcome of the Joint Provost/Academic Senate Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Gender Violence, USC is playing a leadership role on this national collaborative.

This work has helped Parmar see the benefit of creating an environment where people feel safe and valued. When asked who she admires in the equity movement, she focused on those individuals on the front lines and meeting the challenges in-person, on campus.

“I have tremendous respect for people who have the courage to deal with issues on a daily basis and continue on,” said Parmar. “I think of students and staff and faculty who face challenges and go on to report them despite tremendous risks of retaliation. It’s very courageous and helps create change.”
Kelli O’Laughlin (2007) continues her work in Uganda and was able to travel there this spring to reconnect with all her collaborators. She has two grants through NIH/NIAID and the UW Center for AIDS Research for her work there. The first “Human mobility and HIV care engagement among African refugees in Uganda,” is attempting 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. Her 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.” This study is assessing assisted partner notification (APN) of HIV implementation in refugee settlements in West Nile Uganda.

Applause for the UCLA Alumni!

Monica Wattana (2012) who is currently the Director of Education for the ED at MD Anderson Cancer Center. She will formally take over as Program Director for the Oncologic Emergency Medicine Fellowship July 2002. She is also working for the Graduate Medical Education at MD Anderson to put together the Core Competency Lecture series for all trainees at the institution.

Jess Oswald (2018) continues to work clinically at UCSD with a dual appointment in the Emergency Department and in the Department of Anesthesia Pain Management, with several publications recently and an NIH/NIDA grant for ~ $1.6 million to study A Novel Therapeutic to Ameliorate Chronic Pain and Reduce Opiate Use.

Mike Menchine (2004) and Sanjay Arora (2005) discussed the recent literature in an EMA live segment at the 2022 SEMPA 360 conference.

Gil Shlamovitz (2007), CMIO at Keck Medicine of USC was promoted to full Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine at Keck School of Medicine at USC. Congratulations!

True (Mullins) McMahan (2008) who has been at Garden Grove Emergency Department since completing residency where she is medical director of the Emergency Department and Vice Chief at the hospital. She is a Senior Partner at Vituity. She is also vice chair of the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce, and on the board of Garden Grove Community Foundation as well. On a personal note - her kids are thriving as well with one kid in medical school, a second kid in Okinawa Japan, Lance Corporal of the Marines, and her third is still in high school.

Sophie Terp (2012) was awarded an R01 from the AHRQ to study the impact of EMTALA enforcement on access to and quality of emergency care for vulnerable populations. Her Co-PI is Seth Seabury from the Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics, and co-investigators are Mike Menchine (2004) and Sarah Axeen, also from the Schaeffer Center.

Way to go True (Mullins) McMahan (2008) who has been at Garden Grove Emergency Department since completing residency where she is medical director of the Emergency Department and Vice Chief at the hospital. She is a Senior Partner at Vituity. She is also vice chair of the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce, and on the board of Garden Grove Community Foundation as well. On a personal note - her kids are thriving as well with one kid in medical school, a second kid in Okinawa Japan, Lance Corporal of the Marines, and her third is still in high school.

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Steff Brenman (2017) and wife Liz, members of the LA Lions Women's Hockey, won the 2022 USA National Hockey Championship.

Holden is enjoying hockey too. The championship in Florida allowed for a visit to an alligator farm. A new kind of petting zoo?

Ryan Dollbaum (2021) completed his wilderness fellowship at University of Colorado. He will be working at Highlands Ranch Emergency Department (a community hospital affiliated with the University of Colorado). As a fellow he had a busy spring finishing a medical student course in Moab and Rocky Mountain National Park.

In June he traveled to the Peruvian Andes to Cordillera Blanca, the capstone for his fellowship to get some experience traveling on glaciers while learning how to provide medical care on mountain expeditions. He will continue working with the wilderness section at the University (medical student courses, technical skills training, etc) and hopes to join a local search and rescue team soon.

Varun Shahi (2020) has changed jobs, he will now be working at Placentia-Linda Medical Center.

Mike Casner (2017) has settled back in Chicago, and he is again working with Vituity at Mount Sinai and Holy Cross hospitals. In June, he was awarded the University of Missouri - Kansas City “Faculty Teaching Award,” which is voted on by the residents. Luckily he will remain adjunct faculty for now and return to teach there. He also continues his journey as a home master baker - Chocolate orange cake with cinnamon and clove spiced buttercream, orange marmalade and an orange mirror glaze and peanut butter and raspberry jelly bon bons.

Aws Al-Abdullah (2020) has been able to get into ringside medicine in addition to his EM work. He has been working with the Arizona State Athletic Commission and worked several MMA and Boxing events. He was the ringside physician at a UFC event in Phoenix. Aws has been a huge UFC fan for years and it was a dream come true to be able to work professionally at an event. He was responsible for pre and post fight physical exams, providing medical direction after each fight, and assessing intra fight injuries. He said “It’s definitely been a nice change of pace from the ED and awesome to have the best seat in the house for a sport I’ve been a fan of for years.”

Any residents interested in how to get involved can contact Aws.

Cameron Harrison (2021) has been able to get a break from his critical care fellowship to be sideline doing event medicine at Supercross (one of his favorite sports). “…A dream come true experience…”. Interested residents - he just cold emailed the event organizers. I am not sure how he convinced his fellowship director to give him the time off, the Stanford critical care fellows work a lot. His colleagues have recognized his strength in running codes… at least strength in breaking the code alarm lever off.

Steff Brenman (2017) and wife Liz, members of the LA Lions Women’s Hockey, won the 2022 USA National Hockey Championship. Holden is enjoying hockey too. The championship in Florida allowed for a visit to an alligator farm. A new kind of petting zoo?
Michael Casner (2017) again rode the AIDS LIFECYLE - 545 miles from San Francisco to Los Angeles as part Team Boo Boo. Approximately 2500 cyclists and 1,000 volunteer roadies made the journey. He personally raised more than $11,000 (thanks to the alumni who contributed) and his team raised $84,334. Overall this year’s ride reached a new high raising more than 17 million dollars.

Mary Sun (2013) has completed her wilderness fellowship. Her family is enjoying living in Vancouver, and she is continuing to work clinically at Torrance Memorial monthly (racking up some frequent flyer miles).

Drew Seefeld (2009) spoke at the Annual CADY - Communities for Alcohol- and Drug-free Youth, on Emotional Sobriety and the Science of Addiction Prevention Summit. CADY’s mission is to help local youth make healthy and safe choices by working with schools, parents, youth, and communities to prevent and reduce youth alcohol, tobacco, and other substance use and to promote healthy environments and promising futures.

Carmen Wolfe (2015) received RRC approval for her new residency program! Unfortunately the meeting happened after this year’s match, but she has planned her curriculum, is training the other faculty and will recruit her first class of 12 this coming year. She will be a great Program Director for the new HCA Healthcare TriStar Division in Nashville. She also recruited a co-faculty, former UCLA chief resident Drew Flansbaum (2012) to do some part time teaching at her program. Such a great collaboration and some lucky new residents.

Carmen also published two chapters “Compassionate Restraint in the ED” and “Danger in the Mirror,” in the textbook What Do I Do Now: Psychiatric Emergencies.

Claudie Bolduc (2021) is moving to Austin, TX where she has taken an academic appointment at Baylor, Scott & White in Temple (where Cate Yaggi (2020) works).

The Star of The Show – Dr. Reza Danesh

Reza Danesh (2008) was on the HBO show White Lotus as Dr Rezz with his real business venture MODO Mobile Doctor. He has offered the opportunity for residents to rotate with them in Maui, at his private urgent care and doing outreach and mobile care, relying on good beside exams with no CT scan, just a bedside ultrasound and your skills.
Natalie Shum (2007) was the featured speaker during the American Heart Month (February) Go Red for Women campaign, discussing women and heart disease and the impact of COVID-19 on women and minorities.

Angelique Campen (2000) spoke as part of a panel at the Providence board retreat. She discussed the care of COVID-19 patients.

Andrew Seefeld (2009) and his identical twin brother created an app, “myLifeLink” to help those who have struggled with addiction connect with community and get support.

Hans House (2002) started a new job as Medical Director at Washington County Hospital ED, a critical access hospital in Washington, Iowa. He is also still faculty at the University of Iowa but he loves his new challenge of working in this tiny rural hospital!

Haleigh Kotter (2017) is part of a new team. Introducing KIT Wellness and Aesthetics! San Diego’s newest women-owned and operated clinic offering Ketamine Infusion Therapy for treatment of depression/mood disorders and market leading aesthetic services. @kitaesthetics

Eric Silman, our former Assistant Program Director, is enjoying his family and work in private practice in North Carolina and still finding ways to be academically involved and teach. He was caught teaching ultrasound to the NHRMC Internal Medicine residency program in Wilmington, NC.

Alumni - Do you have something to share with the UCLA residency and alumni family for the kudos page? Email Richelle Cooper (1998).
Great Work UCLA Alumni!

Carlo Reyes (2003) and Health-e-Charity partnered with Works of Power 501c(3) to raise funds and provide medical and non medical support to a community in Esteli, Nicaragua. A Masquerade Gala supported Team Nicaragua’s efforts to provide medical care to those in need. Health-e-Charity sent a medical team to Nicaragua to set up mobile clinics and treat 383 those with inadequate access to medical care. Learn more about the mission by watching the YouTube or check out the health-e-charity Instagram or Facebook posts. Health-e-Charity will be having a gala fundraiser in November 2022 to support the next medical mission in the Philippines planned for February 2023.

Angelique Campen (2000) travelled to Guatemala in June 2022 for a medical mission. Her daughter Scarlett also travelled and helped with the program.

True (Mullins) McMahon (2008) is on the board of Rx Ballroom Dance. They are celebrating three years of success. The 501c3 raises money to provide free ballroom dance classes for Parkinson’s and dementia patients. Rx Ballroom Dance’s mission is to use ballroom dance to preserve and enhance the quality of life in people who are confronting neurological conditions. The program consists of weekly ballroom dance classes specifically designed to engage both the body and mind to alleviate symptoms of diseases such as Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s. The program is supported by community grants from the Parkinson’s Foundation and the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America. They were at one studio, and then the pandemic made them pivot to an online format which resulted in some new international students! Since things started opening up again, they have gone now to two studio locations in Orange County, and they are now growing into San Diego.

Theresa Cheng (2021) donated 14 inches of hair to “Children with Hair Loss.” While continuing in her Skadden Arps Fellowship she represented at a virtual hearing for a domestic violence restraining order.

She received a social medial shout out on the first day of Women’s History Month from New Leaders Council.

She helped support an art show as fundraiser for Border Kindness, the nonprofit organization she is on the board for that provides asylum-seekers, migrants, refugees, and the displaced with comprehensive services that include food, shelter, clothing, medical care, and legal services.

She continues to work clinically at UCSF and at a community ED while completing her fellowship.

Erik Schraga (2006) is part of FYXR, delivering mobile ER home visits in Northern California.

Erik Schraga, MD
Emergency Nurse and Board Certified Physician

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Caught on Shift

Josh Baugh (2019) caught on Instagram, commanding respect (?) from his residents in the Massachusetts General Hospital ED during the January 2022 Omicron surge.

Sarah Medeiros (2014) celebrated on UC Davis EM social media as one of the many exceptional women physicians on National Women Physician Day February 2022.


Sam Kadera (2013) and Rebecca Bavolek keeping the RRUCLA EMC running and waiting room clear on the evening shift.

Mike Casner (2017) keeping everyone’s hands and feet warm on shift with some hotties.

Eric Snyder (2008) working the tent at Providence Cedars-Sinai Tarzana, February 2022 at the tail end of the Omicron surge.


Thank you to Carolyn Sachs (1994) for bringing the fun for Easter and Cinco De Mayo.

Ilene Claudius (2002) covering the ED so the residents can attend conference. What’s with all the phones?

Angelique Campen (2000) covered the ED during the Super Bowl and an Easter shift.

Two former chief residents Carmen Wolfe (2015), and Drew Flansbaum (2012) working at HCA Healthcare TriStar Division in Nashville.

Chinese Lunar New Year at Olive View with Alan Chiem, Ashley Vuong (2022), Anna Nguyen (2022), Charlene Gaw (2024), Matt Waxman (2007).

UCLA alumni crew caught on shift at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara - Matt Rosen (2019), Anthony Catalano (2017), and Kelley Feeley (2008). Unfortunately we missed Eddie Cotner (2005), but we love to see the UCLA family in practice together!
Danielle Antonuk (2021) completed her palliative care fellowship and will be working Emergency Medicine clinically at Hollywood Presbyterian with EMA and at Kaiser Baldwin Park, and she will be attending as a Palliative Care provider at Harbor-UCLA.

Ed Chu (2013) remains based in Germany working for Medicine Sans Frontiers (MSF). He recently helped train providers in Ukraine. He still works clinically for IHS with Hopi Nation tribes. He recently authored an editorial on improving mass casualty planning.

Rushdi Abdul-Cader (1999) continues to work as the Medical Director for the jail service at San Luis Obispo. While not EM, he has had numerous impacts and lives saved - he intubated a man on the floor of a jail bathroom and was recognized with the “Sheriff’s Life Saver Award.” His family is also thriving, with a great family get together on father’s day for the empty nesters.

Robb McCormick (2004) is the Department Chief for Kaiser’s two Orange County Emergency Departments (Anaheim/Irvine).

Janak Acharya (2007) looking uplifted after a 10-day meditation retreat. He is back to his day job as faculty at UCSF Fresno, and Medical Director of Air Methods.

Tyler Barrett (2005) completed the Academic Leadership Development Program at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He was nominated and selected an At-Large Member position on the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Medical Board and reappointed for a second term as Senior Leadership Recognized Representative, Department of Emergency Medicine, Physician Council for Clinical Service Excellence. He was also appointed as the VUAH Physician Representative on the VUAH Patient and Family Advisory Group, and appointed as Co-Chair, VUMC Controlled Substances Quality Oversight Committee.

Kareem Agunbiade, our former ultrasound fellow remains with our program part time and continues to perform stand-up at several locations in Southern California. Some of the residents were able to check out one of his shows. There are also some virtual shows, so be sure to follow him on social media (@aka.agunbiade) and be in the know.

Nate Friedman (2021) is in year two of his toxicology fellowship, and has published a case report in Clinical Toxicology. You can also follow along his TikTok videos at The toxic Nate.
Our undergraduate research volunteer (the emergency medicine research associates - EMRA) program continued to thrive and stay engaged despite being out of the ED for 2 years due to COVID restrictions. They happily returned to work in the hospital March 2022. We are thrilled to have them back in the ED.

Each spring with undergraduate research showcase several EMRA gain valuable skills working in groups to prepare and present abstracts. This year we had 21 students on 4 abstracts with Bill Mower (1990) and Richelle Cooper (1998).

Several members from the last couple years start medical school this fall - Myles Chang - USC Keck, Cliff Danza - UCI, Akhil Paladin - USC Keck, Grace Yang - Tulane, Rishabh Shah - USC Keck, Madison Kipp - Loyola University Chicago, Jane Burgan - Stony Brook, Timothy Kim - Albert Einstein.

Many EMRA worked with Michelle Brennan (2022) on the Bruins Against Fentanyl OD and distribution of information, test strips and naloxone. In additional community outreach the EMRA organized a Blood Drive at UCLA, and are creating a health literacy campaign.

Former EMRA - Davis (Junghyuk) Park, Kevin Li, Jeessoo Lee, Sarah (Ye Lim) Lee, Hena Sihota, Grace Yang, and Madison Kipp wrote a concepts paper describing our EMRA program that was recently published.

Andrea Tam, our former excellent Staff Research Associate completed her 2 years of education at Vanderbilt and graduated a perfusionist expert. She returns to Los Angeles to be part of the ECMO team at USC…so she will be working with Allison Ferreira (2018).

We say goodbye to Carl Brevard (1968-2022). Carl was not a resident, fellow or faculty in our program, but he was part of our program and UCLA family. He taught many of us a lot about living and caring for patients with chronic illness. Carl was a regular patient when I was a resident; many of us grew to know him and his family. His life was not easy, he suffered pain and other complications due to sickle cell disease. Carl became the one patient that our former Chief, Dr. Marshall Morgan took on as his own personal continuity patient to ensure that Carl received unbiased and empathetic care for his chronic pain and complications. Until Dr. Morgan took on his care, Carl spent many days of every year in the ED and inpatient. Marshall changed that and Carl’s quality of life improved. Carl was kind, funny, and had a disarmingly charming smile. I will remember his patience and grace in how he dealt with us while he was suffering. Thank you to the many faculty, nurses and others who helped contribute to the gofundme to help with his funeral expenses in February. In his memory I urge us to not not just discuss but rather implement programs to address health equity and structural racism in our society and in our EDs.
Farewell Class of 2022!


Congratulations Alumni on these Publications:


Alumni Publications:


Alumni Publications:


Alumni Publications:


