

2013 New Faculty



Dr. Jonathan Chen, Professor, joins the Department of Surgery as Chief of Congenital Cardiac Surgery and the Samuel & Althea Stroum Endowed Chair in Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery at Seattle Children's Hospital. Dr. Chen completed medical school at Columbia University, where he later went on to pursue training in General Surgery,

Cardiothoracic Surgery, with advanced fellowship training in Mechanical Ventricular Assistance and Transplantation, and Congenital Cardiac Surgery. He stayed on faculty at New York-Presbyterian, where he was Director of Pediatric Cardiovascular Services (Cornell) and Surgical Director of Pediatric Heart Transplantation (Columbia). The author of more than 120 papers and 25 chapters, Dr. Chen has focused on research topics pertaining to congenital cardiac surgery, transplantation, mechanical circulatory assistance for children, and alternative anticoagulants to heparin for cardiopulmonary bypass. He has co-edited a textbook of cardiac transplantation, and is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in thoracic organ transplantation. He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Membership and Professional Standards Committee within the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

Dr. Chen's interests include extending contemporary congenital cardiac care to the developing world. He continues to lead humanitarian trips to perform heart surgery on infants and children while training local physicians and surgeons at these sites. His group visited the Phnom Penh Heart Center in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in 2005 and 2006, and the Fann Cardiovascular Institute in Dakar, Senegal in 2007. In 2008 and 2009, under the guidance of the Children's Heartlink Foundation and in conjunction with the Clinton Global Initiative, Dr. Chen's team operated at the Jilin Heart Center in Changchun, China, and this past year at the Post Graduate Institute for Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh, India.

At Seattle Children's, Dr. Chen hopes to build one of the largest regional practices of congenital cardiac surgery on the West Coast, coordinating growth in both pediatric

congenital cardiac surgery at Children's, as well as adult congenital cardiac surgery at UWMC.



Dr. Alexander Gougoutas, Assistant Professor in the Division of Plastic Surgery, was born in Minneapolis, although he considers himself a New Jersey native. Alex received his undergraduate degree in Music from the University of Pennsylvania in 2000 with honors. He completed his medical degree, general surgical, and plastic surgery training at the University of

Pennsylvania. The Plastic Surgery Program at Penn is very strong, with an internationally recognized microsurgery program. We were fortunate to match Alex to our microsurgery fellowship for the 2012-2013 academic years. On his arrival at University of Washington it became clear that Dr. Gougoutas was a team player, a skilled surgeon, and a gifted teacher. The division felt that he would be a great addition to our faculty. Alex's primary clinical interest is in reconstructive microsurgery and his research focus will be in clinical outcomes.

He is happy to remain in the Pacific Northwest near his family, who relocated to Portland, OR from Princeton, NJ.



Dr. Marcelo Hinojosa, Acting Assistant Professor, is a member of the Bariatric Surgery team and the Urgent Care Surgery Services in the Division of General Surgery at the UW Medical Center.

Dr. Hinojosa's clinical interests include advanced minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery, bariatric surgery, foregut surgery, and abdominal wall hernia surgery.

His main research interests center on surgical outcomes, bariatric and metabolic surgery, and gastroesophageal reflux disease.

Dr. Hinojosa received his medical degree from the University of California, Irvine College of Medicine in

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2004. He completed residency in General Surgery as well as a Research Fellowship in the Divisions of Gastrointestinal Surgery and Colon & Rectal Surgery at UC Irvine. Dr. Hinojosa finished his Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Gastroesophageal Surgery at the UW Medical Center in 2012.



Dr. Susanna M. Nazarian, Assistant Professor in the Division of Transplant Surgery, was a Morehead Scholar at the University of North Carolina where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.S. in Biochemistry and a B.A. in Comparative Literature. While there she was three times All-American and four times Atlantic Coast Conference champion in cross country and track.

She pursued her medical studies at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. During the summers she worked as a guide on Mt. Rainier. She completed the Halsted Surgical Residency at Johns Hopkins and received a Ph.D. from the Graduate Training Program in Clinical Investigation at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She completed her two-year Abdominal Transplant Surgery fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Clinically she specializes in transplantation of the kidney, liver and pancreas as well as laparoscopic donor nephrectomy. Her research interests target the identification and management of factors affecting the outcomes of liver and kidney transplantation.

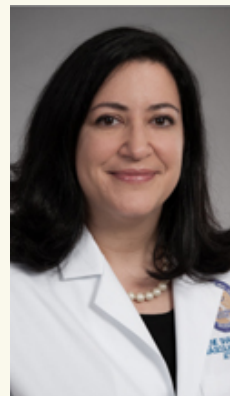
Her husband, Saman, is a cardiac electrophysiologist with special expertise in complex ventricular arrhythmias. They have a four year old daughter, Madeline. Dr. Nazarian's current recreational interests include hiking with her family and cycling. She and Madeline can often be seen on their tandem bicycle.



Dr. Guy Saltmarsh, Acting Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery and is a member of the Urgent Care Surgery Services at UW Medical Center. His clinical interests are in acute surgical disease, minimally invasive/laparoscopic surgery, and surgical oncology.

Dr. Saltmarsh earned his bachelors degree from UC Berkeley where he studied International Development, and his medical degree from UCLA. He then continued on with his general surgery residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center; one of the two major trauma centers serving the Los Angeles area.

"I find being a surgeon the most rewarding position I could imagine for myself. Working with a diverse patient population to provide them with meaningful health care is an absolute privilege. When a person is afflicted with an ailment, large or small, the impact can be significant. I believe it is the physician's job to guide the patient through the health care system from diagnosis to cure. Being a surgeon has the added satisfaction of providing definitive treatment options in the operating room."



Dr. Sherene Shalhub, Assistant Professor in the Division of Vascular Surgery, joined the Department of Surgery in July 2013. She plans to work at the interface of vascular surgery and vascular genetics. Her first goal is to conduct a combined research and clinical program to investigate why some patients with aortic dissection develop aneurysms while others do not.

Her clinical practice will focus on building the UW vascular program at Valley General Hospital, though she will also be clinically active at UWMC and Harborview.

Dr. Shalhub most recently served as an attending staff surgeon at the Memorial Hermann Heart & Vascular

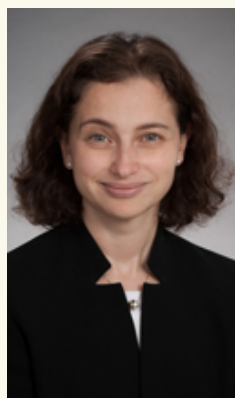
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Institute in Texas Medical Center with a faculty appointment as Assistant Professor in the Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. She earned her medical degree from the Morsani College of Medicine at the University of South Florida in Tampa and then completed her general surgery residency and vascular surgery fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle. In addition, she completed a Master of Public Health degree at the University of South Florida and a postdoctoral trauma research fellowship at the University of Washington.

Dr. Shalhub has a strong research focus and in concentrating her research in the genetic basis of aortic and arterial aneurysms and dissections as well as elucidating the mechanism of rapid aneurysmal degeneration of the descending thoracic aorta post aortic dissection. The research will be conducted in collaboration with Dr. Peter Byers at the University of Washington and Dr. Dianna Milewicz at the University at Houston.

Clinically, she is interested in providing a comprehensive and collaborative multi-disciplinary approach to the treatment of aortic and peripheral arterial aneurysms and dissections in patients with genetically triggered vascular diseases such as Familial Thoracic Aortic Aneurysms and Dissections, Marfan syndrome, Loeys-Dietz syndrome, and vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome.

Personally, she enjoys hiking, alpine climbing and skiing. We are thrilled to have Dr. Shalhub back with the Department of Surgery.



Dr. Lena Sibulesky, Assistant Professor in the Division of Transplant Surgery, is a transplant surgeon who specializes in liver, kidney, and kidney-pancreas transplants. She came from The Mayo Clinic in Florida. She graduated from Tufts University School of Medicine and completed her residency at Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital. She then

completed transplant fellowships at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center at Harvard Medical School and at The

Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education at The Mayo Clinic in Florida. Dr. Sibulesky is interested in both clinical and translational research in liver transplantation. She is interested in studying mechanism of biliary strictures in donors after cardiac death.



Dr. Niten Singh, Associate Professor in the Division of Vascular Surgery, is a nationally-renowned board certified vascular surgeon specializing in the latest techniques in vascular and endovascular surgery. Dr. Singh spent the last 7 years at Madigan Army Medical Center where he was Chief of Endovascular Surgery. During that time he had two combat deployments.

Dr. Singh will lead the UW Limb Preservation Program and look to expand the peripheral open and endovascular program.

Dr. Singh received his medical degree from the Uniformed Services University and completed his general surgery residency at Tripler Army Medical Center followed by fellowship training at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Dr. Singh has expertise in treating all vascular disorders but has a special interest in peripheral interventions and limb salvage surgery. His research interests focus on critical limb ischemia and revascularization strategies to avoid major amputation. In addition Dr. Singh has a strong interest in medical education and resident training. He has numerous peer-reviewed publications and numerous book chapters.

Dr. Singh's long-term goals include broadening the Limb Preservation Service at UW with significant vascular surgery involvement and creating a nationally recognized multidisciplinary program dedicated to limb salvage to augment the already strong Regional Vascular Center.