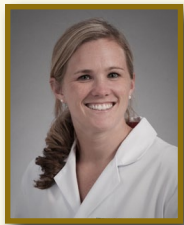


Honors and Awards

Continued from page 20

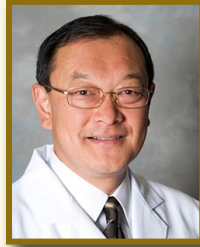
projects and will be awarded at their annual conference in June of 2015. The project described the development of a novel PET radiotracer that specifically targets liver cancer, as well as various modifications that optimize its clinical feasibility. Dr. Sham worked on the project as a fellow in the NIH-funded T32 program in Nanotechnology and Physical Science Training Program in Cancer Research under mentors [James Park](#), Associate Professor in the Division of General Surgery, [Satoshi Minoshima](#), Professor in the Department of Radiology, and T32 Principal Investigator [Miqin Zhang](#), Department of Materials Science and Engineering.



Dr. **Meghan Flanagan** was selected to be recognized as a Patient Safety Hero. A Patient Safety Hero is one whose actions “go above and beyond one’s job.” This recognition is part of the UW Medical Center’s observance of Patient Safety Awareness Week (March 8–14, 2015).

Dr. Flanagan was nominated by fellow General Surgery resident Katherine Flynn-O’Brien, MD. Dr. O’Brien wrote, “Despite being a busy surgical resident, Meghan has gone above and beyond to promote patient safety. She has been a member and leader of the Housestaff Quality and Safety Committee for two years. She has pioneered projects critical to patient safety, including the [Patient Safety Innovations Project \(PSIP\)](#) during the 20013–2014 academic year, which created and implemented an electronic and automatic ORCA Problem List Manager tool. This tool helps providers maintain an updated and comprehensive problem list for their patients, which improves patient safety and handoff communication. Meghan was instrumental to the PSIP’s success: this tool is functioning for all of UWMC today. Additionally, Meghan is working hard to implement a standardized handoff tool in the post-operative care unit (PACU) to facilitate effective and efficient communication between care providers in the post-operative setting to minimize omission of information errors. Similar tools have been shown to reduce adverse patient events around the nation. Meghan is an advocate, leader, and (by far) one of the strongest resident voices in patient safety. Her work goes beyond the effect of one patient, touching hundreds already (through PSIP) and hundreds more (through the PACU handoff checklist). She is utmost deserving of a Patient Safety Hero Award.”

Other Surgery News



Kanwar Thind, an undergraduate student at University of Washington, and Sunny Uppal, recent UW graduate, were each awarded SVS Student Research Fellowships for projects they will undertake this summer with Dr. [Gale Tang](#), Assistant Professor in the Division of Vascular Surgery (pictured on page 20). The award was established by the Society for Vascular Surgery Foundation and consists of a \$3,000 stipend, \$450 toward attendance at the 2015 Vascular Annual Meeting, and a two-year subscription to the Journal of Vascular Surgery. The students were nominated by Drs. Gale Tang and [Thomas Hatsukami](#), Professor in the Division of Vascular Surgery (pictured above), for their projects, “Role of MMP2 in p27 knockout vascular smooth muscle cell migration” and “Effect of hypoxia on p27 knockout vascular smooth muscle cell phenotypes.” Both projects will further understanding of the role of p27 on arterial remodeling in response to injury.

“Global oncology is an emerging focus in global health. A core question is how cancer early detection, diagnosis and treatment can be best adapted within existing healthcare systems with limited resources, particularly in low and middle income countries (LMICs). [The Breast Health Global Initiative \(BHGI\)](#), directed by Dr. [Ben Anderson](#), Professor in the Department of Surgery and based at [Fred Hutchinson Research Center](#), developed an evidence-based analytic approach called “resource-stratification,” in which cancer care systems and tools are prioritized and sequenced to provide guidance on how functional cancer management systems can be created in LMICs.



BHGI was recently acknowledged in a high level global publication. The [Council on Foreign Relations](#) invited an independent task force to address the rising crisis of non-communicable diseases in LMICs. This task force issued a new [report](#) entitled “*The Emerging Global Health Crisis: Noncommunicable Diseases in Low- and Middle-Income Countries.*” In this report ([page 66](#)), the Task Force identifies the work of BHGI and recommends that the U.S. “mobilize support” for developing other disease guidelines modeled after our resource-stratified approach:

“The Task Force calls on U.S. leadership to help mobilize support for development of resource-level-appropriate guidelines for the management of treatable and curable cancers. Breast cancer provides a good model. With the support of the Susan G. Komen Foundation and NCI, the Breast Health Global Initiative was formed and has since produced a comprehensive set of resource-specific, stage-specific guidelines for breast cancer management (Anderson, 2008). These guidelines provide the basis for prioritizing scarce local government resources and the blueprint for future investments. Similar guidelines are needed for leukemia and other treatable and curable cancers.”