

Honors, Awards & Publications

Dr. Michael S. Mulligan Named New Chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery



“I am very pleased to announce that Dr. **Mike Mulligan** will take over as the new Chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, effective April 1, 2017. Dr. Mulligan has spent his whole career on the faculty here at UW, first being recruited to lead the lung transplant program, and for the past 6 years serving as Chief of the Section of General Thoracic Surgery. He is a master clinical surgeon with expertise in the surgical management of end-stage lung disease including pulmonary thromboendarterectomy, lung volume reduction surgery, and lung transplantation. He has established the second VA lung transplant program, serving our veterans with lung disease, and established and leads the adult ECMO program at UWMC.

Dr. Mulligan is also an established surgeon scientist, with an NIH funded basic science lab that has conducted important research on lung ischemia reperfusion and lung allograft dysfunction. He has served in a number of important leadership roles inside UW, as well as nationally and internationally. Dr. Mulligan was elected to serve as an At-Large Member of the UWP Board. He leads the Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery Program and the Cardiothoracic Surgery Research Program and serves on numerous committees for UWMC and UW Medicine. He has served as the Region 6 Councilor for UNOS, Chair of repeating Critical Care

Symposiums at STS and AATS, and recently was elected and served as President of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association. He is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in cardiothoracic surgery and has committed his whole career to elevating the care of patients with cardiothoracic disease at UW Medicine.

We are very fortunate to have him accept this important role to lead our cardiothoracic division. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Mulligan and welcoming him to this new leadership role.”

Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS, FRCSEd
The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
University of Washington

Dr. Jeffrey Avansino Appointed Vice President and Medical Director of Surgical Services, Associate Surgeon-in-Chief, Seattle Children’s Hospital

Dr. Jeff Avansino, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, Division of Pediatric General Surgery, UW School of Medicine was recently named vice president and medical director of Surgical Services and Associate Surgeon-in-Chief at Seattle Children’s Hospital (SCH).

In this new role, Jeff will provide medical leadership and oversight for Surgical Services. He will also be responsible for quality, safety, service and flow in the operating rooms, as well as operating room access, physician engagement in the Improvement and Innovation system, and new facility planning. Jeff will chair the Perioperative Leadership Committee and serve as medical director for the designation of Seattle Children’s as a recognized children’s surgery center.

Jeff is a graduate of the University of Nevada Medical School. He completed his surgical residency at the University of Washington, and his fellowship in Pediatric Surgery at SCH. Jeff was then recruited to our faculty, and in 2008 became associate professor of surgery. Other leadership positions he has held include medical director of the Surgical Unit and medical staff president. In 2016, he earned his MBA from Seattle University.

Jeff has been a leader in exemplifying collaboration through his teamwork on the surgical unit. He has helped in building a climate where people are motivated to do their best to help our organization achieve our mission. He is skilled in paying positive attention to his patient’s, their families and our team.

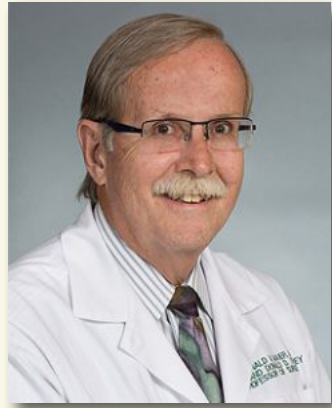


Published by Seattle Children’s Hospital

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Dr. Ronald V. Maier Elected President of American Surgical Association (ASA)

Dr. Ron Maier was elected president of the **American Surgical Association (ASA)** at its 137th Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA in April 2017. Dr. Maier is the Surgeon-in-Chief of Harborview Medical Center and Professor and Vice-Chair of Surgery at the University of Washington. He is the Jane and Donald D. Trunkey Professor of Trauma Surgery.

He is an expert in trauma care, emergency general surgery and surgical critical care. Dr. Maier conducts research on clinical approaches to improve survival after severe injuries and following severe life-threatening surgical illness. He is also an expert in care and research of patients in the ICU with multiple organ failure and critical illness. Dr. Maier is routinely listed in “The Best Doctors

in America,” he is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and is board certified in surgery and surgical critical care. He is past-president of the Society of University Surgeon, the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the Surgical Infection Society, the Shock Society and the Halsted Society. In addition, he has served as chair of the American Board of Surgery and the NIH Study Section for Surgery, Anesthesiology and Trauma, and was past Vice President of the American College of Surgeons.

The ASA was founded in 1880 and is the nation’s oldest and most prestigious surgical organization. Its members include the nation’s most prominent surgeons from the country’s leading academic medical institutions, many of whom are Chairs of the Departments of Surgery at these institutions. Membership also includes leading surgeons from around the world, making it much more than an American association. Its primary mission is to be the premier organization for surgical science and scholarship and to provide a national forum for presenting the developing state of the art and science of general and sub-specialty surgery and the elevation of the standards of the medical/surgical profession.



Drs. Doug Wood and Ron Maier at ASA’s 2017 Annual Meeting

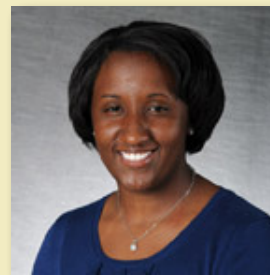
Living Donor Awards

The University of Washington Medical Center Living Donor Program received two awards from the National Living Donor Assistance Center (NLDAC) at the American Transplant Congress in May 2017. The UWMC Living Donor Program was recognized as a top utilizer of the NLDAC program and the living donor social worker, Paige Kayihan was recognized as a top participant with the NLDAC service between 2013–2016. The NLDAC program provides travel and subsistence expenses for living donors which makes living donation possible for many more people. **Stephen Rayhill, MD, Lena Sibulesky, MD and Andre Dick, MD,** accepted the awards on behalf of UWMC.



Drs. Melissa Greenwald, Health Resources and Services Administration, Andre Dick, UW Department of Surgery, Lena Sibulesky, UW Department of Surgery, Stephen Rayhill, UW Department of Surgery and Robert Merion, Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan

2017 40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health Award



Dr. Hope Jackson, 2017 UW Department of Surgery Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery Fellow, was among 40 leaders in minority health to receive the **2017 40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health Award** presented by the **National Minority Quality Forum (NMQF)** at the **2017 NMQF Leadership Summit on Health Disparities and Spring Health Braintrust** in April 2017.

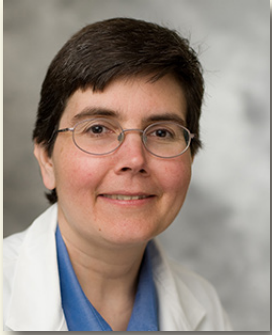
This award recognizes young leaders in the United States who are making a difference in healthcare, health services research, and health policy; differences that enhance the ability of the American health services delivery system to meet the health services needs of the increasingly biodiverse American general population. NMQF encourages applications from the full range of professionals in health services-related occupations which includes physicians and nurses; elected and appointed officials; attorneys, researchers and academics; pharmacists, dentists and ophthalmologists; among others.

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Faculty



Dr. **Eileen Bulger**, Professor and Chief of Trauma at Harborview Medical Center was elected to the **National Trauma Institute (NTI)** Board of Directors in August 2017. NTI is a nonprofit organization that advocates for increased federal funding for trauma research and research infrastructure to reduce death and disability.

Dr. **Farhood Farjah**, Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, was awarded an R01 from the **National Cancer Institute** for his research project titled “The Effectiveness, Safety, and Costs of Guideline-Concordant Lung Nodule Care.” Dr. Farjah’s study will compare the effectiveness, safety, and costs of varying intensities of lung nodule evaluation. The results will help direct limited resources towards development of system-level interventions designed to increase guideline adherence or investigate alternative approaches to lung nodule evaluation, with the goal of better care and outcomes for patients with incidentally detected lung nodules. Reviewers deemed the proposal outstanding, with the potential to have a major impact on the field, as it will help inform care for the 1.5 million people diagnosed each year with an incidentally detected lung nodule. This is Dr. Farjah’s first NIH-funded research grant.



Dr. **Danielle Lavalley**, **SORCE** investigator and Research Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, recently received a PCORI Engagement Award to support her project entitled “Using Patient-Generated Health Data to Transform Healthcare.” This PCORI award will provide funding for two years, beginning in April 2017, with a total award amount of \$249,843. Additional information about the award mechanism can be found at

Engagement Award: Knowledge, Training and Development, and Dissemination Awards. Dr. Lavalley will collaborate on the research with University of Washington co-investigators Sean Munson (Human Centered Design and Engineering) and Dagmar Amtmann (Rehabilitation Medicine), Patient Partner co-investigators Rich Bloch (Systems/Software Engineering Principal, Business Learning Incorporated) and Debbe McCall (PCORNet Health eHeart Alliance), the UW Medicine Digital Health Advisory

Committee and **CERTAIN Patient Advisory Network**. This work will create a community of patients, clinicians, healthcare administrators, informaticists, software developers and researchers to identify the evidence gaps faced when determining the value of patient-generated health data (PGHD) created through mobile health and wearable devices, with a focus on developing and translating PGHD research into practice. This will aim to bridge the existing divide between those who develop technology and those who use technology for the advancement of health, and create a framework for patient-centered outcomes research that is inclusive of PGHD to help ensure that future research addresses important study design considerations and is responsive to the needs of stakeholders.

Dr. **Ronald V. Maier**, Surgeon-in-Chief of Harborview Medical Center and Professor and Vice-Chair of Surgery, received the prestigious International Society of Surgery’s (ISS) prize of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie at the 47th Annual World Congress of Surgery in Basel, Switzerland. The prize is awarded to “the surgeon who has published work which has made the most notable and useful contributions to surgical science.”



Dr. **Carlos Pellegrini**, Professor and Chief Medical Officer, was presented with the Japan Surgical Society’s Honorary Fellowship at their award ceremony in Yokohama, Japan in April 2017.

Dr. **Doug Wood**, The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair, was elected President of the **Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF)**. TSF is a pivotal force for growth and vitality in cardiothoracic surgery, especially for research and academic career development, awarding nearly \$15 million in cardiothoracic surgery research and education grants. The Foundation was first established in 1988 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization and is the charitable arm of **The Society of Thoracic Surgeons**. The mission of TSF is to foster the development of surgeon scientists in cardiothoracic surgery; increasing knowledge and innovation to benefit patient care.



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Dr. Wood was also elected to the office of **CTSN**et President. Dr. Wood previously served on the CTSNet Board of Directors as Secretary and Treasurer; he is a former President of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons.



Dr. Anne Ehlers



Dr. Giana Davidson



Dr. Danielle Lavallee



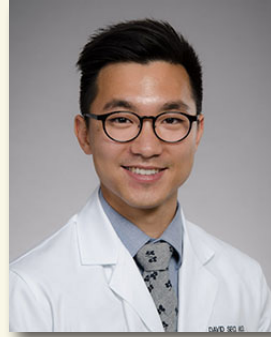
Dr. David Flum

Drs. **Anne P. Ehlers**, General Surgery Chief Resident, **Giana H. Davidson**, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, David A. Talan, Professor of Medicine at UCLA, **David R. Flum**, Professor, Division of General Surgery and Associate Chair for Research, **Danielle Lavallee**, Research Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery and Kimberly Deeney, CODA patient advisor; published “**Methods for Incorporating Stakeholder Engagement into Clinical Trial Design**” in *Generating Evidence & Methods to Improve Patient Outcomes (eGEMs)*.

Residents and Fellows



Dr. Edo Bedzra, Cardiothoracic Chief Resident, was elected to a two year term as the Resident Director on the **Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS)** Board.



Dr. Y. David Seo



Dr. Venu Pillarisetty

Dr. **Y. David Seo**, Research Resident and Dr. **Venu Pillarisetty**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, received the Pancreas Cancer Pilot Project Award funded by Swim Across America for their project evaluating the T cell response in human pancreatic cancer using immuno-sequencing and multiplex fluorescence imaging.

Dr. **Lucas Thornblade**, General Surgery resident, co-authored the research publication “**Preoperative Immunonutrition and Elective Colorectal Resection Outcomes.**”

Dr. Thornblade and co-authors’ research has found that immunonutrition has been shown in many randomized trials to reduce infections and post-operative complications. In order to understand whether there was evidence to support routine preoperative use of immunonutrition in the community at large, they studied patients in Washington State who had elective colorectal surgery between 2012 and 2015. They found that use of immunonutrition was associated with a 23% lower rate of prolonged length of stay. This research supports continued efforts for nutritional optimization for all patients before elective surgery.

