

Surgery News

The 28th Annual Visiting Scholar in Cardiothoracic Surgery



On Friday, May 10th, the Cardiothoracic Surgery Division welcomed Dr. **Sean Grondin**, thoracic surgeon and Head of the Department of Surgery at the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary, to University of Washington as the 28th



Annual Visiting Professor. The day began with six thoracic case presentations to Dr. Grondin by cardiothoracic residents: Drs. Eric Howell, **Lara Oyetunji**, (*top left*), Swaroop Bommarreddi, Joel Sternbach, Tori Lennox, and Roderick Yang. Dr. **Farhood Farjah**, (*top center*), Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, hosted research presentations given by cardiothoracic surgery faculty, Dr. **Michael Mulligan**, (*top right*), Professor and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery, and his lab, and guest faculty. In the afternoon, Dr. Grondin spoke about challenges in transition planning for the senior surgeon. The day wrapped up with a reception at the Crow's Nest in South Campus Center celebrating the day and thanking Dr. Grondin for his visit.

HONORS & AWARDS

FACULTY

Three members of the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center at Harborview Medical Center were honored at the American Burn Association's annual meeting in Las Vegas in April 2019.

Dr. **Nicole Gibran**, Nancy Auth Washington Research Foundation Endowed Chair for Restorative Burn Surgery and Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, (*right in photo*) received the President's Leadership Award, which recognizes distinguished and exceptional service to the American Burn Association and to the profession of burn care.

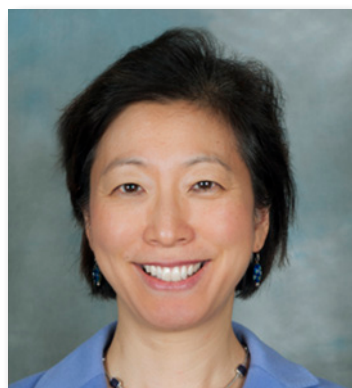


Beth Costa, Barclay Stewart
& Nicole Gibran

Beth Costa, Occupational Therapist, received the Barbara Knothe Burn Therapist Achievement Award, which recognizes the important role of therapists in burn rehabilitation.

Dr. **Barclay Stewart**, Burn Surgical Critical Care Fellow, received the Peter Brigham Burn Epidemiology Best Award, which recognizes research studies that address a single burn or fire prevention problem, a specific population, multiple etiologies or epidemiology.

Dr. Stewart won the award with his co-author, Dr. Yasaman Kazerooni, for their paper "A Comprehensive Legislative Framework to Address Chemical Assault." Dr. Stewart will join Department of Surgery as faculty in September 2019.



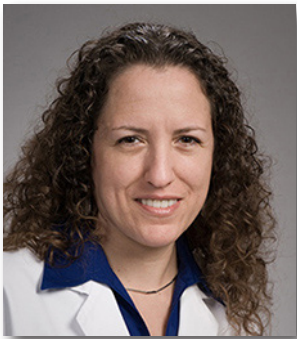
Dr. **Sara Kim**, Research Professor, Division of General Surgery, has been recognized by the **Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)** for her significant contributions to the AAMC's Leadership Development Programs.

"Dr. Kim is currently serving as both a Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Certificate Program Advisory Committee member and a faculty member for a variety of our leadership programs. Recently, she facilitated a highly effective session for our LEAD faculty team on the topic of conflict management. Her engaging facilitation style and mastery of the subject matter created a one-of-a-kind learning experience. The AAMC is grateful that Dr. Kim will soon be delivering a similar session at our first-ever leadership program for medical students, as well as the AAMC's 2019 Annual Meeting (Learn, Serve, Lead) and our flagship leadership seminar for new Department Chairs and Associate Deans."

HONORS & AWARDS (CONT.)

Dr. Kim's expertise on leadership, and the topic of conflict management in particular, is very much needed in today's complex and changing health-care environment." — Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

Dr. Kim reflects, "I am deeply appreciative that Christina Tushman, Director of Leadership Development at AAMC, reached out to collaborate with me around conflict management training targeting new and experienced leaders in academic medicine. The work I have been privileged to carry out in this domain was borne out of a significant workplace conflict I endured over a decade ago. My probing into the sources of the conflict with curiosity led me to form a rich partnership with many colleagues across UW Medicine. Without their collaboration and support, the current training and research programs would not have been realized."



The **UW Latino Center for Health** hosted the 3rd Annual Latinx Faculty Recognition Event on May 2, 2019. This event highlights and honors the incredibly diverse body of work and impactful contributions of the 33 Latinx faculty across the tri-campuses of the University of Washington. Among the honorees is Dr. **Elna Quiroga**, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery.

Dr. Quiroga states, "The Latino Center of Health of the University of Washington creates impactful improvements in the health and well-being of Latinx communities; I am extremely honored to have been selected for this recognition. I am fortunate to provide comprehensive vascular care to Latino patients in a culturally responsible environment, and will continue work in decreasing

health inequities that affect the growing population of Latino patients."

Honored faculty are recognized for meeting at least one of the following criteria: promotion to associate professor or professor, publication of an article in a high impact journal, publication of a book, fine arts production, securing a major grant, or retiring during or near the end of the academic year.



Dr. **Bryce Robinson**, Associate Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, received the American College of Surgeons (ACS)/Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) Health Policy Scholarship through Brandeis University. This scholarship supports attendance at Brandeis University's one-week Executive Leadership Program for Health Policy and Management. The program will be held in June 2019 and is offered through The Heller School for Social Policy and Management. It is a unique opportunity for attendees to learn more about creating innovative and sustainable solutions to improve the quality, cost-effectiveness, and efficiency of health care service delivery and participating in health care policy and reform.

Dr. Robinson expresses, "I am extremely excited to attend this course offered by the ACS and EAST. Like most surgeons, I feel deeply unprepared to understand and address the complexities of health care reform and system leadership beyond my limited field of medical practice. This scholarship will create a foundation of understanding of healthcare policy and management that will make me a more knowledgeable and effective surgical leader."



Dr. **Sherene Shalhub**, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, received the 2-year, \$250K Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award for her research initiative titled "Engaging Patients with Type B Aortic Dissections as Partners in Patient-Centered Outcomes Research."

Her research project focuses on patients with type B aortic dissection (TBAD), who face complex decisions regarding the management of their aortic dissection. The objective of this initiative is to build a collaborative aortic dissection research infrastructure that will facilitate patient centered outcomes research training, support, and networking among patients with TBAD, surgeons, cardiologists, researchers, industry stakeholders, and patient advocacy groups. The main goal of this work is to assemble a broad network of patients with TBAD and stakeholders, who are well informed and who will guide the research prioritization in TBAD research.

Dr. Shalhub comments, "I am personally very excited for the opportunity to work on this. We anticipate that as we work together, we will identify findings that are relevant to daily clinical practice, can be immediately adapted for wide dissemination and will identify TBAD related knowledge gaps that would benefit from patient centered outcomes research and comparative effectiveness research. Creation of the community will also allow us to evaluate patients' willingness to participate in future randomized TBAD related research studies which are very much needed for this disease process."

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HONORS & AWARDS (CONT.)



Dr. **Robert Sweet**, Professor of Urology, Medical Director for the UW Medicine Kidney Stone Center at Northwest Hospital, and Executive Director for the **WWAMI Institute for Simulation in Healthcare (WISH)** and the **Center for Research in Education and Simulation Technology (CREST)**, was awarded the **Leaders in Health Care Awards** by Seattle Business magazine to “*honor a remarkable assortment of compassionate people doing heroic work in Washington state.*”

Dr. Sweet won the gold award for Achievement in Medical Technology for his contributions to the field of healthcare simulation. As Executive Director of WISH and CREST, he has made simulation technology an essential tool in training providers and increasing patient safety.

Dr. Sweet says, “*The outstanding and professional WISH and CREST staff have worked tirelessly to contribute to stamping out the disease of “medical error” through the development and utilization of simulation science. Whether it’s improving the skills of individual and teams of healthcare providers, increasing a patient and their families’ understanding of their medical condition, or supporting training or rapid prototyping of novel medical devices, the recognition that this award provides validates this effort and its relative importance to the health and economy of the broad community it serves.*”



In honor of his outstanding work and significant contributions, Dr. **Douglas Wood**, The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair, was presented a 2019 **Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS)** Distinguished Service Award at the Annual Membership Business Meeting.

An STS member since 1995, Dr. Wood has been a long-time volunteer. He has served on the Society’s Board of Directors as President and as Secretary, as well as

held positions on other governance bodies, including the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Standards and Ethics Committee, Workforce on Health Policy, Reform and Advocacy, and Workforce on Critical Care. In addition, Dr. Wood currently is President of The Thoracic Surgery Foundation, the Society’s charitable arm.

Cardiothoracic surgery is one of the most successful stories in all of medicine,” said 2018-2019 STS President Keith S. Naunheim, MD. “As

members of this specialty, we feel a responsibility to give back and make sure that our discipline does not merely survive but that it continues to thrive. That type of success is exactly what Doug Woodand co-recipient Jim Levett have helped us achieve in the past two decades. Like so many cardiothoracic surgeons before them, they have worked tirelessly to pursue improvements in cardiothoracic care that have greatly benefitted patients and saved lives.”

Residents and Fellows

Dr. **Jake Hemingway**, Vascular Surgery R2, won the 2019 Best Paper and \$1,000 cash prize at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the prestigious Vascular & Endovascular Surgery Society (VESS). The VESS is the only national vascular organization devoted to young vascular surgeons and trainees. His topic was “*Lowering the Ankle Brachial Index Threshold in Blunt Lower Extremity Trauma May Prevent Unnecessary Imaging.*”



Dr. **Dara Horn**, General Surgery Research Resident, received a \$1,000 travel award to attend Shock Society’s 42nd Annual Conference to be held in Coronado, CA in June. This award is for her abstract entitled “*Variation In the Hla-A Peptide Binding Groove is Associated with Sepsis after Traumatic Injury.*”

Dr. Horn expresses, “*This award will allow me to travel to the annual Conference on Shock and showcase a multidisciplinary*

collaboration between Harborview Medical Center and our partners in California, in which we identified a possible genetic predisposition to sepsis and septic shock in critically ill trauma patients. I look forward to presenting this work in June, and will use this opportunity as a stepping stone for further related research.”

Dr. **Jamie Robinson**, General Surgery R2, was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society (ΑΩΑ) by current UW ΑΩΑ chapter members. Each year, the chapter elects faculty, residents, and fellows who demonstrate commitment to and excellence in teaching medical students as well as displaying outstanding leadership, professionalism, service, and professional achievement.



One of the nomination comments for Dr. Robinson: “*Jamie is a great team member to work with. She is*

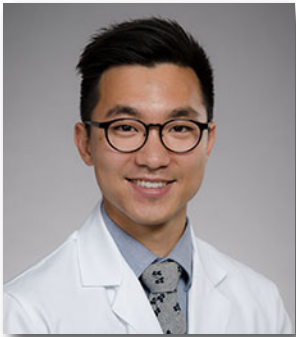
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HONORS & AWARDS (CONT.)

excellent at her job, but also works to involve and teach medical students at every level. She is a great leader because she values each team member and their role and always encourages students to contribute and make meaningful contributions to the team. She does the right thing for patients for the right reasons, even when no one is looking or when she won't get credit. She truly prioritizes the patient's well-being and shows all patients compassion and respect."

Dr. Robinson says, "I've been lucky enough to have incredible mentors throughout my training, and I understand the importance of that mentorship in our field. I always enjoy working with our bright medical students and try to do my best to answer any questions they have about a career in General Surgery or medicine in general."

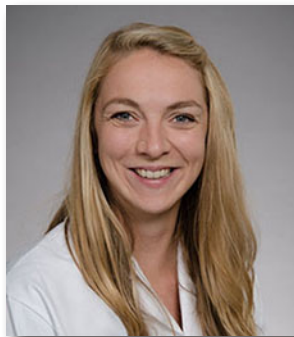
ΑΩΑ's purpose is to perpetuate excellence in the medical profession, and election to ΑΩΑ is one of the highest honors that physicians can receive. It recognizes excellence in scholarly activities, humanistic qualities, leadership capacity, and exceptional patient care skills.



Dr. **Y. David Seo**, General Surgery R4 and Dr. **Venu Pillarisetty**, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, and, published a paper, "Mobilization of CD8+ T cells via CXCR4 blockade facilitates PD-1 checkpoint therapy in human pancreatic cancer," in the Journal of Clinical Cancer Research. Their findings challenge the commonly held view that pancreatic cancer does not elicit an immune system response that

is robust enough for immunotherapy to be effective. The researchers report that they found such T cells within pancreatic tumors and determined that they can be activated to attack and kill cancer cells. They studied pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, the most common and most deadly pancreatic cancer.

Dr. **Kate Stadel**, General Surgery Research Resident, received the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Back to Bedside Award. The initiative is designed to empower residents and fellows to develop transformative projects that foster meaning and joy in work and allow them to engage on a deeper level with what is at the heart of medicine: their patients.



Supported by the ACGME, the Back to Bedside initiative provides competitive funding opportunity for resident- and/or fellow-led teams to innovate; creation of a learning collaborative made up of resident- and/or fellow-led research teams; and national dissemination of successful projects.

