

## Surgery Resident Newsletter

October - November 2014

### Message from Dr. Galante Program Director

The fall is quickly approaching and this means cooler temperatures and the start of interview season. We will release interview dates early in October. I appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and efforts in the interview process. Your input is critical to our selection of the next intern class.

We have begun working on the 2015-16 research assignments. The research committee will be discussing the proposals at an upcoming meeting. The committee has decided to move this process forward, so I will advise the current PGY-2s to begin thinking about ideas and mentors for research.

Be on the lookout in the upcoming months for more information on our dedicated tracks: International/Rural Policy/Comparative Effectiveness, and Surgeon-Scientist. We have made strides in formalizing many of these programs.

We will be having a fall celebration again this year at Hot Italian on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. Please be on the lookout for flyers with more information.

Thank you

-Dr. Galante

### Surgery School Dates

	<u>9:00am</u>	<u>10:00am</u>
10/7	<i>Peptic Ulcer and Gastric Neoplasms</i>	<i>Teaching</i>
10/14	<i>Small Intestine Obstruction</i>	<i>Master Surgeon</i>
10/21	<i>Ultrasound Physics</i>	<i>Journal Club</i>
10/28	<i>Appendicitis and Diverticulitis</i>	<i>ICU and Ultrasound</i>
11/4	<i>Colon Cancer</i>	<i>Mock Orals</i>
11/11	<i>Anorectal Inflammatory Conditions</i>	<i>Master Surgeon Liver Resection</i>
11/18	<i>Anorectal Neoplasms</i>	<i>Journal Club</i>
11/25	<i>Interpersonal Skills, Part 1 of 4</i>	<i>Palliative Care</i>

### Surgery Grand Rounds

10/7	Kiho Cho, MD	TBD
10/14	Aijun Wang, PhD	TBD
10/21	Zane Atkins, MD	TBD
10/28	<b>CANCELLED!!!</b>	
11/4	Elizabeth Wick, MD	TBD
	Host: Diana Farmer, MD	
11/11	<b>VETERANS DAY</b>	
11/18	Nilas Young, MD	Size Matters: Evolving Indications for Aortic Surgery, and what's special about bicuspid valves
11/25	TBD	TBD



## Up Close with Shinjiro Hirose, MD

Please welcome our newest Faculty member, Shinjiro Hirose, M.D. Dr. Hirose will serve as the Chief of the Division of Pediatric General, Thoracic, and Fetal Surgery in the Department of Surgery. He specializes in minimally invasive surgery for gastro-intestinal, biliary, liver and thoracic disorders in fetuses and children and is a nationally recognized children's cancer surgeon. Dr. Hirose was the lead pediatric surgeon at the UC San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Children's Hospital and its Fetal Treatment Center before joining us here at UC Davis.

### **What are you looking forward to most about your new role here at UCDMC?**

I'm looking forward to working with all of the providers and allied health personnel and administration in order to provide specialized surgical services for the children in the Sacramento area and beyond. There's so much energy here, and there's a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm behind children's services here.

### **How did you end up in fetal surgery?**

It started actually with my interest in pediatric surgery. After I graduated from New York Med, I went to UC Davis for general surgery. After doing three years there, I planned to spend some time in a lab, which you generally have to do in general surgery to match into something like pediatric surgery or transplant surgery. I started looking around for labs to do some pediatric surgery research - there are several across the country, famous for having research fellows. I set up to work in the lab at UCSF for two or three years and it turned out to be three. I did fetal surgery research for three years, and general pediatric surgery research as well. That's how it all started. It's hard to match the "fun-factor," the "science-factor" and the "cutting-edge factor" of fetal intervention and put it all together, and then be able to intervene on patients. It's really a fantastic field.

### **You were a resident yourself here at UCD, so you are familiar with Sacramento. Is this somewhere you have kept ties? What do you like about Sacramento as place to live and work?**

I have kept ties with friends and colleagues here in Sacramento, and I'd like to think that I had a little bit to do with Dr. Diana Farmer looking at her current position and Chair of the Department of Surgery. Sacramento is a fantastic place to live, but I think that the folks reading this who live here already know that. I've had the privilege to live in wonderful cities: Boston, New York, Tokyo, San Francisco, and Sacramento. Of those cities, Sacramento is by far the most livable. The weather is amazing. The food scene is vibrant, and seems to be growing by the minute. Of course, the proximity to things such as Tahoe, Napa, the rivers and the coast is also just spectacular. It seems to me that often, Sacramento is defined by its location and accessibility to other places, but these days, it looks like Sacramento has a lot to offer in terms of activities in the city itself. Working at UCD is a huge attraction for me. There's a great amount of camaraderie here and there's a real commitment to excellence in patient care here, it's really a privilege to get to come back.

### **What would your advice be for surgery residents, both to those with a clear career path and to those trying to find the right path?**

I would suggest that they keep an open mind as life rarely goes the way one plans. It's important to recognize opportunities and to be prepared and able to take them when they present themselves. Also, there are no wrong

## **DIVISION OF TRAUMA AND ACUTE CARE**

The trauma and acute care services have been extremely busy since the beginning of the year. I commend everyone's efforts on delivering such a high level of care. We would like to welcome Dr. Travis Gerlach. Dr. Gerlach completed his residency and critical care here at UC Davis. He previously worked 5 years at the University of Cincinnati.

Just a couple of reminders: Every time you touch a patient you need to document it as a quick note. This includes chest tube removal, suturing wounds, or just quick checks of wounds. Please remember that there is always an attending on call and for most hours of the day, that attending is present in the hospital. Please bump things up to them, even if they may seem insignificant. We are here to care for patients and to teach you.

Thank you

**-Dr. Galante**



### **Dr. Hirose (cont.)**

paths to get to where you're going. It's ok to take a longer path. I was an engineer before I went to medical school. If I had to do it all over again, I'd still want to be an engineer as that education and training helps me even to this day. Finally, life and work should be fun. If it's not fun, it's time to reassess. Residency is not something to get over or to endure. Who gets to learn so much while getting to do surgery? It's a great time in one's life, and life is too short to wish time to go faster. It does that all by itself.

#### **Aside from surgery, what about some of your other interests/hobbies?**

I'm an avid musician and play bass guitar in a band in San Francisco. We recently recorded a CD of 13 original songs and are working on another recording. I like spending time motorcycling both on and off road. I also enjoy exercising although I'm trying to get away from weight lifting and am moving toward participating in boot camps. Finally, my wife and I recently adopted a new puppy so we are spending a great deal of time chasing after him.

#### **What are some of your other life goals?**

Life goals: there are many. Professionally, I'd like to be able to create programs that improve the quality of care of patients in Sacramento and surrounding areas, specifically in the areas of pediatric and fetal surgery. Personally, I'm working on being a good husband and trying to be the kind of person that would make my mother proud.

#### **If you weren't a surgeon, can you think of another "dream job?"**

I have my dream job. But if you twisted my arm, I'd want to be the bassist for the Who.

*-Matt Lancara*

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**Plastic Surgery Resident Nirav Patel Joins the  
Camellia Symphony Orchestra**

After a three year respite from orchestral performance, Nirav returns as third chair in a deep section of thirteen cellists in the CSO, the most established and longest continuously running orchestra in the region, now in its 52<sup>nd</sup> season in Sacramento. The season opened September 27, 2014 at the Sacramento City College Performing Arts Center featuring Luoslawski's *Little Suite*, Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme with Susan Lamb Cook from UC Davis, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 55 (Eroica). For a complete list of performances, go to [www.camelliasymphony.org](http://www.camelliasymphony.org). Dr. Patel invites the Department of Surgery to support the arts and community orchestras such as ours to preserve the area's rich classical music tradition.