

Message from Dr. Cooke



Hello! Please enjoy our Spring/Summer UC Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency Newsletter. The just completed 2016-2017 academic year was a success, with wonderful education opportunities for our residents and other trainees. In addition, our residents received teaching

and quality improvement awards, and contributed to the scientific evidence based literature. We welcome our incoming I-6 resident to the UC Davis cardiothoracic surgery tradition, Dr. Anna Xue who graduated from the University of Washington School of Medicine. Also joining our Division as a new faculty in Adult Cardiac Surgery is Dr. Victor Rodriguez. Dr. Rodriguez will serve as director of our aortic surgery program, and assist Dr. Paul Perry, '15, in the development of a heart transplant program. Dr. Rodriguez is a graduate of the UC Davis School of Medicine and the general surgery residency. He comes to us from Oregon Health & Science University where he served on faculty. We say a heart felt goodbye to our graduating Chief Resident Dr. David Penner, '17. Dr. Penner is joining a community general thoracic surgery practice serving Reno, Nevada. If you have updates you'd like to share in our Alumni News section, please feel free to submit them to myself, dtcooke@ucdavis.edu or our residency coordinator Marissa Valentin-Clark, mevclark@ucdavis.edu. We want to hear from you.

Thank you !

David Tom Cooke, MD
Program Director,
UC Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency

Graduating Chief Resident 2017

David Penner, '17, MD

General Thoracic Surgery Practice
Reno, Nevada



Congratulations!

New Faculty Additions:



Victor Rodriguez, MD
Adult Cardiac Surgery
Aortic Surgery Program

Our New House Staff !



Dr. Anna Xue
I-6 Post Graduate Year (PGY) 1

Welcome to our New House Staff -

Dr. Xue received her undergraduate degree from the University of Washington where she was Phi Beta Kappa, and completed medical school also at the University of Washington. While there she served as president of the UW chapter of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, where she organized and led events and projects to foster interactions among several graduate healthcare professional schools. Dr. Xue is fluent in Mandarin and Spanish

Spotlight: David Penner, '17, MD,



Dr. Penner is our graduating chief resident.

Tell us about yourself:

While my roots are in California, I grew up along the coast of southern Maine. My undergraduate years were split equally between obtaining a music degree with a cello emphasis, and premedical studies. I received my Medical School degree at Loma Linda University Medical Center, and General Surgery Residency at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. I am honored to be a graduate of the UC Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency program, and owe my success to the faculty, staff, and fellow residents and to my supportive wife. This summer, I will

be joining a multispecialty surgery group in Reno, Nevada, where I will be practicing both General and Thoracic Surgery.

Tell us about your upcoming new position, and what excites you the most about it?

I am joining a 17-surgeon multispecialty group in Reno, Nevada, where I will be practicing General and Thoracic surgery. I am excited to be moving to Reno at a time of economic and population growth, and look forward to helping to meet the community needs in the area of Thoracic surgery.

How did UC Davis prepare you for life as a thoracic surgeon ?

I believe UC Davis provided the correct balance of discipline, collegiality, and excellence necessary for the successful development of surgical training. While I admire the Cardiothoracic faculty for individual excellence, what I appreciate most is the collective dedication each surgeon has for their patients as individuals. I hope to have absorbed a part of each surgeon's expertise, but what I truly want to emulate is the practice of caring that extends beyond the operating room. This is how I believe UC Davis has helped prepare me for life as a thoracic surgeon.

What will you miss the most from your experiences at UC Davis ?

What I will miss most are the relationships that I've made during the last two years. One of the things that makes this job enjoyable is sharing experiences with fellow residents and faculty, and this dynamic will change after training ends. However, I appreciate the acquaintances that I've made while at UC Davis and will look forward to maintaining contact with each faculty and staff member in this department during the upcoming years.

2017 Graduating Chief Resident Dinner Paragary's Midtown, Saturday, June 3, 2017

On Saturday, June 3, we held our graduation dinner for Dr. David Penner, '17. This was a wonderful celebration featuring remarks from faculty, staff, and other guests, presentation of diplomas, and remarks from Dr. Penner himself. A great celebration for a great resident!



Dr. David Penner, '17, and Faculty



Dr. Penner, '17, and Family



Dr. Penner, '17, and the CT Surgery Operating Room Team

Visiting Professor—February 21st

On Tuesday, February 21st we welcomed **Dr. Ara A. Vaporciyan, MD, FACS, MHPE** as the 2017 John Mott Jr. Visiting Lecturer. Dr. Vaporciyan is a Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston Texas. Dr. Vaporciyan presented grand rounds, entitled: “Modernizing Pedagogy in Cardiothoracic Surgical Training”. In addition to dinner with the CT Surgery division and the Department of Surgery education division, Dr. Vaporciyan met with the residents for a discussion on career development, and the current state of cardiothoracic surgical education.



Dr. Vaporciyan



Dr. Vaporciyan, faculty, and guest, Dr. Don Hopkins

Dr. Vaporciyan with Residents



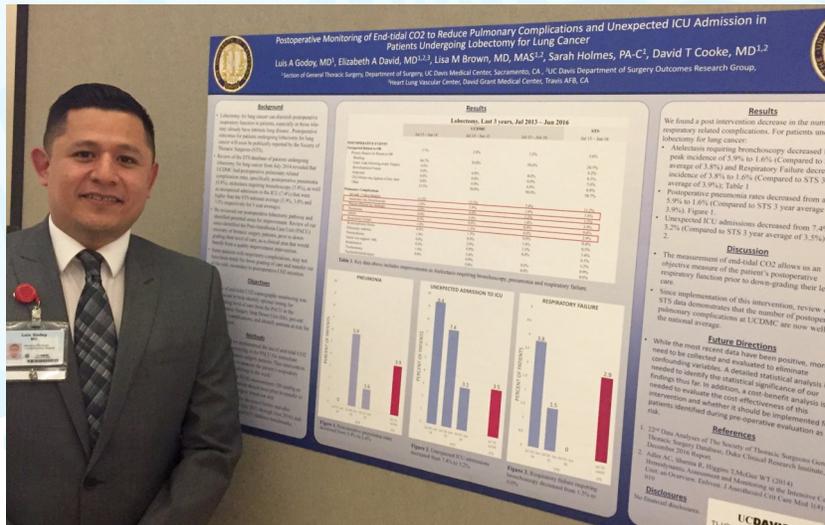
Resident Scholarly Activity

Publications:

- **Godoy LA PGY4**, Raff GW. Sternal Clefts and Anomalies. In: Raff, GW, Hirose, S, editors. Surgery for Chest Wall Deformities. 2017. 1st ed. Cham, Switzerland: Springer. p. 71-82
- **Oldfield SA PGY5**, David EA. Chest Wall Tumors. In: Raff, GW, Hirose, S, editors. Surgery for Chest Wall Deformities. 2017. 1st ed. Cham, Switzerland: Springer. p. 83-100
- Cattoni M, Vallières E, Brown LM, **Sarkeshik AA PGY2**, Margaritora S, Siciliani A, Imperatori A, Rotolo N, Farjah F, Wandell G, Costas K, Mann C, Hubka M, Kaplan S, Farivar AS, Aye RW, Louie BE. Is there a role for traditional nuclear medicine imaging in the management of pulmonary carcinoid tumours?. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2017 May 1;51(5):874-879.
- Cattoni M, Vallieres E, Brown LM, **Sarkeshik AA PGY2**, Margaritora S, Siciliani A, Filosso PL, Guerrero F, Imperatori A, Rotolo N, Farjah F, Wandell G, Costas K, Mann C, Hubka M, Kaplan S, Farivar AS, Aye RW, Louie B. PS01.25: Large Cell Neuroendocrine Carcinoma of the Lung: Prognostic Factors of Survival and Recurrence After R0 Surgical Resection: Topic: Surgery. J Thorac Oncol. 2016 Nov;11(11S):S284.

Podium and/or Poster Presentation:

- **Godoy LA PGY4**, David EA, Brown LM, Holmes S, Cooke DT. Postoperative Monitoring of End-tidal CO₂ to Reduce Pulmonary Complications and Unexpected ICU Admission in Patients Undergoing Lobectomy for Lung Cancer. Poster session presented at the Annual Healthcare Quality Forum, UC Davis Health, Sacramento, CA, March 2017.

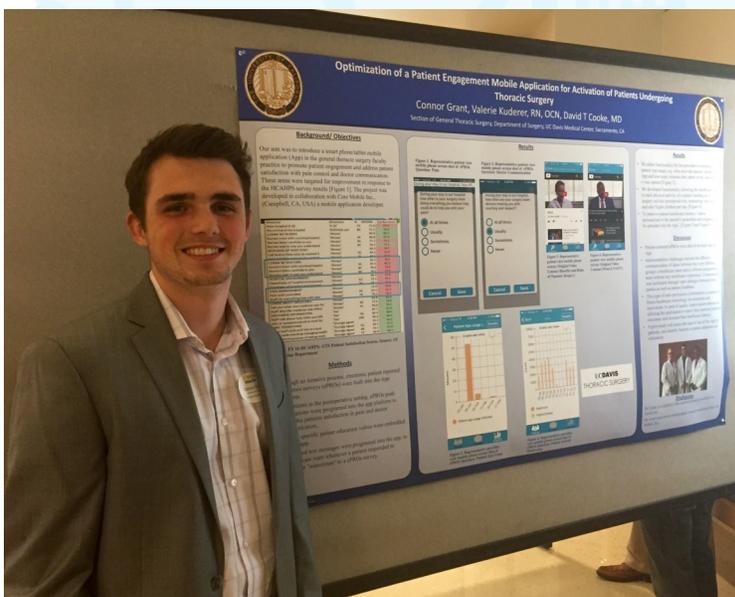


Dr. Luis Godoy, PGY4, presents at the UC Davis Health Annual Healthcare Quality Forum

The Pipeline

- In January the Cardiothoracic Surgery Division hosted UC Berkeley undergraduate students as part of the [Cal Career Center Externship Program](#). Students **Avani Kelekar and Zhengxiong Hui** spent their winter break shadowing in clinics and observing in the operating room. The Cal Externship Program provides UC Berkeley students with an insider’s view of a career field by shadowing Cal alumni in their workplaces during winter break.
- In July, the Division hosted undergraduate students, **Christopher Smith and Diego Martinez** as part of the [UC Davis Prep Medico Program](#). The overall goal of the Prep Médico program – short for “Preparando Estudiantes Para Ser Médicos,” or “Preparing Students to Be Physicians” – is to enhance the diversity in the physician workforce and in Northern California that will provide cultural and linguistically sensitive health care.
- UC Davis undergraduate student **Brianna Nino** completed her role as student research assistant to Dr. David Cooke for the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Pipeline to Proposal Award entitled: “Empowering Patients and Their Families to Improve Outcomes That Are Most Important to Them after Surgery and Other Therapies for Lung Cancer”. Brianna’s efforts assisted the submission of a larger PCORI Improving Healthcare Systems Award opportunity.
- UC Davis undergraduate student **Connor Grant** completed the Core Mobile, Inc. Patient

Engagement Scholarship. As part of this scholarship experience, Connor completed a quality improvement project entitled “Optimization of a Patient Engagement Mobile Application for Activation of Patients Undergoing Thoracic Surgery”, within the thoracic surgery clinic, and was the first undergraduate student to complete the UC Davis Health Certificate Program in Health System Improvement: Blue (Basic)



Connor Grant, presents at the UC Davis Health Annual Healthcare Quality Forum

Curriculum Highlight

Dr Paul Perry, '15, one of our associate program directors has developed an innovative Endovascular Surgery Curriculum for our I-6 residents. The curriculum is collaborative, with joint educational efforts with cardiac surgery, vascular surgery, cardiology, cardiothoracic anesthesiology and the [UC Davis Center for Virtual Care](#). This curriculum is milestone driven, with specific deliverables for each post-graduate year level.

The objectives of the **UC Davis Cardiothoracic Endovascular Surgery Curriculum**:

- Gain proficiency in utilizing ultrasound guidance for vascular access
- Obtain skills and knowledge required to perform Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) as part of a Heart-Team approach
- Develop knowledge of all elements of Thoracic Endovascular Aortic Repair (TEVAR) including core elements of graft deployment procedure, pre-operative planning, post-operative management
- Obtain proficiency in independent utilization of fluoroscopy as manifested by California State Fluoroscopy Operator Certification
- Be able to independently insert a peripheral ventricular assist device (VAD) (e.g. Impella)
- Understand the role of fluoroscopy, echocardiography and ultrasound as adjuncts for successful extra-corporeal life support (ECLS) cannulation and management
- Understand the basic principles of endovascular therapy including catheter/wire selection and angiography performance/interpretation
- Develop proficiency with utilizing percutaneous vascular closure devices (e.g. Perclose, Angioseal)

Of course the above innovative curriculum element is framed by our Program Mission.

The Mission of the University of California, Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency is to:

- Offer balanced and innovative cardiothoracic surgery training, that is
- Committed to the intellectual, technical and professional development of our residents, and
- Provide the foundation for graduates to be successful in their endeavors and evolve the specialty.

Resident and Alumni News

Residents:

- **Dr Luis Godoy, PGY4**, has been selected as the recipient of the 2017 Outstanding Teaching Award Resident Medical Staff in Surgery by the Class of 2017 medical students. Dr. Godoy received his award at the Student-Faculty Awards Luncheon in May. Congratulations Dr. Godoy!
- **Dr Melissa Blaker, PGY3**, was honored with the Army Commendation Medal for her service at Landstuhl Medical Center as a pediatrician. Dr. Blaker was recognized for her leadership of the Pediatric Clinic in which she spearheaded a quality improvement initiative to eliminate unnecessary clinic appointments while maintaining a 96 percent access to care rate. Dr. Blaker was also recognized for her leadership in the Mother Baby Unit; her dedication to education, training numerous providers in pediatric advanced life support and other community educational efforts; and for her role as a tireless patient advocate playing a pivotal role in many child abuse cases. Congratulations Dr. Blaker, we are very proud of you and look forward to seeing your future accomplishments!

Alumni:



Dr. Hiran (Chris) Fernando, '98, has joined Inova Fairfax, Inova Schar Cancer Institute to lead its thoracic surgery efforts. Most recently Dr. Fernando served as Professor and Chief of Thoracic Surgery at Boston University.



Dr. Andrea (Ajay) Carpenter, '97, recently completed her service as President of the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA) with distinction in Naples, Florida, November 2016, at the 63rd annual meeting of the STSA. Dr. Carpenter is Professor of Surgery at the University of Texas, Health Science Center at San Antonio, where she serves as the Program Director, of the Thoracic Surgery Residency. To the left, Dr. Carpenter with John R. Benfield, M.D. who was the UC Davis Thoracic Surgery Residency Program Director during Dr. Carpenter's residency.

Alumni Spotlight: Captain Peter Roberts, '99, MD



Information for this spotlight was provided by Dr. John Benfield, and adapted from <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/usnsmercy/Commandinfo/Pages/COBiography.aspx>.

Captain Roberts received his undergraduate degree with honors from Middlebury College, medical degree from Temple University, general surgery residency at the Medical Center of Delaware and completed his Cardiothoracic Residency here at UC Davis in 1999. After finishing his cardiothoracic surgery residency, he stayed on as faculty at UC Davis, building a successful mixed general thoracic and adult cardiac surgery practice. He led the thoracic surgery efforts at the Sacramento Shriner's Hospital for Children, and served an active role in the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) and the Western Thoracic Surgical Association.

In 2003, Captain Roberts founded the cardiothoracic surgery program at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, which at the time was the only United States Military Medical Center (MEDCEN) without cardiothoracic surgery capability. Captain Roberts has served numerous medical command responsibilities including in locations such as Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay, and Iraq. Captain Roberts is the Commanding Officer of the USNS Mercy. The primary mission of the USNS Mercy is to "provide rapid, flexible, and mobile acute medical and surgical services to support Marine Corps Air/Ground Task Forces deployed ashore, Army and Air Force units deployed ashore, and naval amphibious task forces and battle forces afloat." Its other mission is to "provide mobile surgical hospital service for use by appropriate U.S. Government agencies in Humanitarian Civic Assistance (HCA), disaster or humanitarian relief or limited humanitarian care incident to these missions or peacetime military operations." The USNS Mercy recently returned from a mission to Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. The ship has 1000 beds and support facilities in 10 stories, thus making it the 4th largest hospital in the U.S. The Mercy has received the Navy's Retention Excellence Award, formerly known as the Golden Anchor Award.



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**Captain Roberts, '99 (far left)
with Dr. Benfield (far right)**

**Department of Surgery
Cardiothoracic Surgery Related
Grand Rounds Schedule
Medical Education Bldg., Lecture Hall 2222
Tuesday, 7:30am-8:30am
2017-2018**

Date	Presenter	Topic of presentation
November 28	J. Nilas Young, MD UC Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Division Chief	TBD
March 13	John M. Mott, Jr. Visiting Lectureship Valerie W. Rusch, MD Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Host: David Tom Cooke, MD	TBD
May 22	Sterling Humphrey, MD, PGY7 UC Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Chief Resident	TBD
May 29	David Tom Cooke, MD UC Davis General Thoracic Surgery Head	TBD

Residency Events:

New Resident Welcome

September 8, 2017, Frank Fat's, Sacramento

Interview Dates

Friday November 3, 2017

Friday December 8, 2017

Exams

2018 TSDA In-Training Exam 3/10/2018

Alumni Dinner

STS 54th Annual Meeting

January 27, 2018

Location and Time TBD

Fort Lauderdale, FL

Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

J. Nilas Young, MD
Professor
Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery

David Tom Cooke, MD
Associate Professor
Head Section of General Thoracic Surgery
Program Director of CT Surgery Residency

W. Douglas Boyd, MD
Professor
Head Section of Adult Cardiac Surgery

Gary Raff, MD
Professor
Head Section of Pediatric Cardiothoracic
Surgery

Lisa M. Brown, MD, MAS
Assistant Professor
Clinical Director Comprehensive Lung Cancer
Screening Program

Elizabeth A. David, MD, MAS
Assistant Professor
Associate Program Director
General Thoracic Surgery

Paul Perry, MD
Assistant Professor
Associate Program Director
Adult Cardiac Surgery

Amy Rahm, MD
Assistant Professor
Associate Program Director
Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery

Victor Rodriguez, MD
Professor
Adult Cardiac Surgery

Marissa E. Valentin-Clark
Residency Coordinator

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<http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/surgery>

Supporting the Next Generation:
Gifts to UC Davis
Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency

As former UC Davis interns, residents, researchers, faculty, clinicians and surgeons, and "friends of the program", we ask you to consider a gift in support of the cardiothoracic surgery residency that you can designate for the residency fund. Your gift can be for specific curriculum elements, or we can direct toward the greatest needs within the education program each year.

Your tax deductible support can be given in a variety of ways whether it be through direct gifts, appreciated stock (which come with additional tax benefits), gifts of property and estate gifts which can all have a lasting impact on the cardiothoracic surgery residency at UC Davis.

For information on how you can support the UC Davis cardiothoracic surgery residency, please contact Jonathan Evans at 916-734-9675 or jodevans@ucdavis.edu



Friends of the Residency Program Norma and Ron Giovannetti with Dr. Elizabeth David (far right) and Sarah Holmes, PA-C (far left)

[A Special Thank You to
Supporters and Friends of our
Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency](#)

Norma and Ron Giovannetti

Barry Beals

J. Nilas Young, MD

Kaiser Permanente

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Intuitive Surgical, Inc.

Myriad Genetic Laboratories, Inc.

[Alumni!](#)

[We want to hear from you!](#)

Please provide us with news, updates and address and email changes.

Please forward information to Ms. Marissa E. Valentin-Clark, Residency Coordinator, 916-734-2726. mevclark@ucdavis.edu, or Dr. David Tom Cooke, Program Director, 916-734-3861, dtcooke@ucdavis.edu, [Twitter@DavidCookeMD](https://twitter.com/DavidCookeMD)