



Stanford UROLOGY NEWS

SUMMER 2010

UROLOGY FACULTY

Linda D. Shortliffe, MD
Stanley McCormick Memorial
Professor & Chair

Endourology/Laparoscopy

Joseph C. Liao, MD
Benjamin I. Chung, MD
Director of Laparoscopy &
Minimally Invasive Surgery
Harcharan S. Gill, MD
Mark L. Gonzalgo, MD, PhD
Director of Robotic-Assisted
Urologic Cancer Surgery
Robert Kessler, MD

Infertility

Robert Kessler, MD

Female/NeuroUrology/Recon- struction

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Director
Craig V. Comiter, MD
John M. Lavelle, MD
Daniel I. Rosenstein, MD

Pediatric Urology

Linda D. Shortliffe, MD
Chief
William A. Kennedy II, MD
Hsi-Yang Wu, MD
Michael H. Hsieh, MD, PhD

Genitourinary Cancer Program

Joseph C. Presti, Jr., MD
Director, GU Cancer Program
(Uro, Rad Onc, Med Onc.)
Harcharan S. Gill, MD
James D. Brooks, MD
Benjamin I. Chung, MD
Mark L. Gonzalgo, MD, PhD
John Leppert, MD
Jesse McKenney, MD
(Pathology)
Sandy Srinivas, MD (Oncology)
Steve Hancock, MD (Rad Onc)

Urologic Pathology

Jesse McKenney, MD

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Donna Pechl, PhD
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Zijie Sun, MD, PhD

Palo Alto Veterans Affairs

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Santa Clara Valley Med Center

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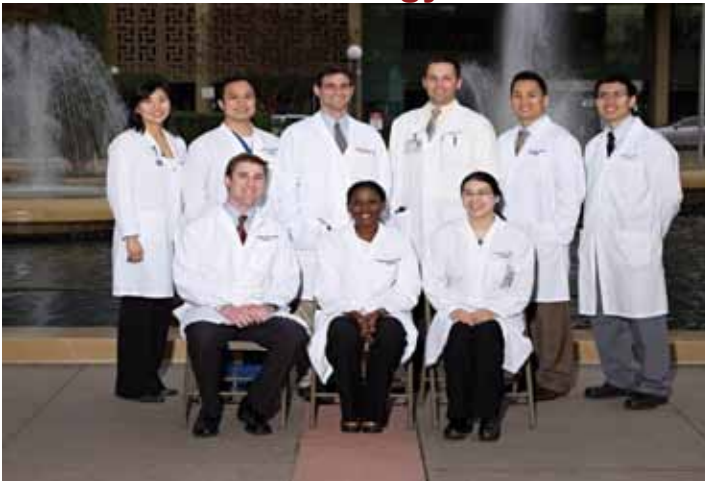
Chief

Jennifer M. Abidari, MD

Daniel Rosenstein, MD

Rajesh Shingal, MD

2009 - 2010 Urology Residents



Not pictured: Residents: Simon Conti, MD, Judith Hagedorn, MD, Joy Lee, MD, Simon Kimm, MD, Tin Ngo, MD, Alan Thong, MD, Aviva Weinberg, MD, and Jonathon Wu, MD, and Curtis Clark, MD, Pediatric Urology Fellow.

Awards at the 2010 AUA meeting

Dr. Tatum Tarin and **Dr. Geoffrey Sonn** presented posters at the 2010 AUA meeting in San Francisco that were chosen as the best poster of their session. Dr. Tarin, a graduate in 2009, and currently a Urologic Oncology Fellow at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City, NY, presented his resident research project with Drs. Sonn and Shinghal, investigating radiation exposure and the risk of secondary malignancy during surveillance for stage 1 seminoma. Dr. Sonn's poster, with Drs. Shinghal, Yu, Chung, Srinivas, Presti and Leppert, evaluating the utilization of partial and radical nephrectomy in the VA Central Cancer Registry, was also selected as the best poster of the session.

Katherine Wu and **Dr. Winifred Adams** presented 2 papers at the Engineering and Urology Society meeting during the 2010 AUA meeting in San Francisco. The paper entitled "Dynamic Real Time Microscopy of the Urinary Tract: An Imaging Atlas Based on Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy" won Outstanding Paper Award. Katherine Wu is an undergraduate and Dr. Adams is a 4th year resident. Other co-authors include Dr. Geoffrey Sonn (PGY5), Dr. Kristin Jensen (pathology), and urology faculty Dr. Joseph Liao.

36th Annual Northern California Urology Resident Seminar

Congratulations to the winners at the 36th Annual Northern California Urology Resident Seminar which was held in Emeryville, CA on Saturday, April 24, 2010. Stanford residents **William Tu, MD** and **Christopher Elliott, MD** took First Prize in the Basic Science Research category and Third Prize in the Clinical Science Research category, respectively. Dr. Tu's presentation was entitled, "Efficacy of c-Met Inhibitor for Prostate Cancer." Dr. Elliott's presentation was entitled, "Epidemiologic Trends in Penile Anomalies and Hypospadias in California 1985-2006."

Message from the Chair

Friends and
Colleagues,

It was a special pleasure to have the American Urological Association meeting in our backyard city of San Francisco. I was happy to see the many contributions to the meeting of past and present Stanford residents, fellows, and postdoctoral graduates, and we all enjoyed seeing the Stanford Urology Alumni from both near and far at the Monday lunch. Some of the current Stanford abstracts are listed in the newsletter so you can see the ongoing research.



I am proud that the department continues to thrive with high quality, innovative, investigation in many areas of urologic disease, during a time of limited US commitment to research funding. You can read in greater detail about the research grants that have been funded due to the hard efforts of our faculty and staff. In addition to these awards, I am especially gratified that the NIH selected Drs. Michael Hsieh and John Leppert to recognize and support with career development awards.

In our summer changing of the guard, we will be saying farewell to Chief Resident Dr. Ilene Wong who departs for a position in Philadelphia, Oncology Fellow Dr. Steven Chang and Pediatric Urology Fellow Curtis Clark who will be assuming faculty positions at the Brigham & Women's in Boston, Massachusetts and Akron Children's Hospital in Akron, Ohio, respectively. Our second Chief Resident Chris Elliot remains at Stanford

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Welcome New 2010-2011 Residents

Philip Barbosa, MD – Philip obtained his undergraduate degree in neuroscience and philosophy, and his medical degree at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. He completed a research fellowship in Kampala, Uganda, setting up and initiating a five-year study on the long term cognitive sequelae of cerebral malaria under the guidance of Dr. Chandy John. He has also completed a longitudinal community-based cohort study on hormonal predictors of erectile dysfunction with Dr. Manoj Monga. Philip has traveled extensively and has interests in playing the banjo, back country backpacking, cycling, racquetball and ultimate frisbee. Philip is an accomplished violinist having performed with the Minneapolis Civic Orchestra, Minnesota Youth Symphony, University of Minnesota Campus Orchestra, etc.

Smita De, MD – Smita completed her undergraduate education in biomedical and electrical engineering at Duke University. She is an M.D., Ph.D. medical school graduate from the University of Seattle, Washington. Her NIH fellowship funded graduate work involved the study of the grasper-tissue interface in minimally invasive surgery using in vivo experiments and computational modeling. The purpose of this research was to better understand stresses typical to minimally invasive surgery and their local effects in order to reduce tissue injury during surgical manipulation through improvements to surgical devices. Smita has interests in gardening, hiking, scuba diving, snorkeling, cooking, reading, playing piano and traveling.

Mark Hsu, MD – Mark obtained his undergraduate degree in biology and his medical degree at Stanford University. His research projects during medical school, under the guidance of Dr. Philip Tsao, involved investigation of abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) pathogenesis by microassay analysis to identify biomarkers in an AAA mouse model using angiotensin II infusion via an osmotic minipump, and use of treadmill exercise intervention in an AAA mouse model to delay aneurysm growth. Mark is a big professional sports fan having followed several local teams including the 49ers, Giants, Sharks and Warriors. He plays piano and violin and also has interests in tennis, golf, hiking and running.

Recent Grants and Clinical Trials

Donna Peehl, PhD is the principal investigator of two new three-year grants from the Department of Defense (DoD) Prostate Cancer Research Program. The goal of one, “The Biological and Clinical Significance of Androgen Receptor Variants,” is to validate expression of the

androgen receptor splice variant AR-V7 as a prognostic marker in primary adenocarcinomas of the prostate and to evaluate its relationship to Gleason grade. Whether AR-V7 enables androgen-independent expression of AR target genes will be investigated in a novel tumorgraft model. The goal of the other, “Identification of Epigenetic Changes in Prostate Cancer using Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells,” is to create iPSCs from primary cultures of prostate cancer cells, then to use these cells as a model to identify the epigenetic changes that occur during prostate cancer development. She is also a co-principal investigator with collaborators at UCSF on another new DoD-funded grant, “Discovery of Hyperpolarized Molecular Imaging Biomarkers in a Novel Prostate Tissue Slice Culture Model.” The goal of this project is to use tissue slice cultures of normal and malignant prostate to identify cancer-associated metabolism for imaging purposes. Dr. Peehl is also a co-investigator on another project funded by the DoD, “SPIO-loaded VLPs as Prostate Cancer Specific MRI Contrast Agents.” The principal investigator of this project is Dr. James Swartz in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Stanford.



Dr. Donna Peehl

Michael H. Hsieh, MD, PhD received a five year career development award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) of the NIH to study “Estrogenic Modulation of Genitourinary



Dr. Michael Hsieh

Epithelial-Probiotic Cross-Talk.” This endeavor is focused on determining how the interactions among estrogen, commensal bacteria, and the genitourinary tract prevent or result in urinary tract infections. Dr. Hsieh will work with his mentors, Dr. Linda Shortliffe (Urology), Alfred Spormann (Civil Engineering), Hsi-Yang Wu (Urology), Gary Schoolnik (Microbiology and Immunology) during the course of the award. He also was awarded a one year grant from the Stanford Pediatric Research Fund to study “The Role of Alternatively Activated Macrophages in Schistosomal Bladder Fibrosis.” This research project will use urinary schistosomiasis as a model of chronic inflammation-induced bladder fibrosis.

John Leppert, MD received a Career Development Award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) to study “Renal Morbidity Following Kidney Cancer Surgery.” This study, funded through 2015, is focused on determining the effect of kidney cancer surgery on kidney function and outcomes associated with chronic kidney disease such as end-stage renal disease,

cardiovascular events, hospitalizations, and mortality. Dr. Leppert will work with his mentors, Dr. Joseph Presti (Urology), Dr. Glenn Chertow (Nephrology) and Dr. Todd Wagner (Health Economics), and will receive additional training through the Graduate Program in Epidemiology within the Department of Health Research and Policy at Stanford University School of Medicine during the course of the award.



Dr. John Leppert

Stanford Physician/ Faculty Leadership Development Program

Drs. Harcharan Gill and Mark Gonzalgo recently completed the Stanford Physician/Faculty Leadership Development Program that was jointly sponsored by the Stanford University SOM and Stanford Hospital & Clinics. This course helped to identify key challenges facing academic medicine and health



Dr. Harcharan Gill

care delivery and to develop skills required to address these challenges. The year long program which featured speakers from medicine, business, and administrative fields culminated in project presentations that were completed by each participant. Dr. Gill presented

his project entitled “Cost containment in urology operating rooms” which identified and reduced the waste of disposable items. He showed that with education and awareness about wastage of disposable items, surgeons and operating room staff were able to reduce waste by 92% in just 90 days. Dr. Gonzalgo’s project was entitled “OR start times and case turnover: analysis and factors for optimal performance.” This project helped to improve the OR efficiency for robotic surgical cases at Stanford Hospital. Key factors for achieving nearly 100% compliance with these measurable outcomes included surgeon/anesthesiologist availability and effective communication between the OR and pre-op nursing staff.



Dr. Mark Gonzalgo

Journal of Urology Honors Stanford Faculty

Mark Gonzalgo, MD, PhD, was named the 2009 Outstanding Reviewer by *The Journal of Urology* in the field of prostate cancer. The award was presented at the AUA Annual Meeting this past spring in San Francisco. Dr. Gonzalgo was one of eight physicians honored for his exceptional contributions in reviewing scientific

manuscripts for *The Journal of Urology*. Dr. Gonzalgo was selected from more than 2,000 reviewers who contribute their services to *The Journal*.

2009 Research Awards

The **David Packard Award for Best Postdoctoral Fellow Publication** was established in 2005 from funds donated by Dr. David Packard. The winner of the 2009 Packard Award was **Keith Chan, MD** for his paper "Identification, Molecular Characterization, Clinical Prognosis and Therapeutic Targeting of Human Bladder Tumor-initiating Cells," Chan KS, Espinosa I, Chao M, Wong D, Ailles L, Diehn M, Gill H, Presti J Jr, Chang HY, van de Rijn M, Shortliffe L, Weissman IL, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 106(33):14016-21, 2009 Aug 18. Dr. Chan received \$1000 for this award.

The **Richard Lo Award for Best Resident Publication** was established in 2004 from funds donated by Dr. Richard Lo. The winner of the 2009 Lo Award was **Geoff Sonn, MD** for his paper "Optical Biopsy with In Vivo Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy," Sonn GA, Jones SN, Tarin TV, Du CB, Mach KE, Jensen KC, Liao JC, The Journal of Urology 182(4):1299-305, 2009 Oct. Dr. Sonn received \$1000 for this award.

Presti Chosen to Spearhead Patient Service Program

Joseph Presti, Jr. MD, the Thomas A. Stamey Professor of Urology, is one of four physician leaders recruited to spearhead an initiative to improve patient service and focus on the patient experience at Stanford Hospitals and Clinics. The effort is a joint program of the School of Medicine and SHC in partnership with the Medical Staff. As a member of the leadership team, Dr. Presti will be active in designing, guiding and implementing strategies to improve the patient experience at Stanford, including operational changes in ambulatory clinics, the Cancer Center, and inpatient wards, as well as broader initiatives such as measures designed to change how the patient experience is thought of at SHC. One of the main projects he has worked on in the first year of this project has been in a reorganization of the Cancer Center clinics. A new model has been designed to determine clinic room and staff allocation that will provide a metric based and transparent method to distribute these resources. It is hoped that this will result in an improved patient, faculty and staff satisfaction as well as improved efficiency.



Dr. Joseph Presti

2010 Gifts to the Urology Department

Diamond Circle
(\$10,000 or more)

A.S. and E.K. Grove

Simon Kleinman, TTEE & Phyllis M. Kleinman, TTEE

George L. and Ruth Klopping

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** Donation made to the Duncan E. Govan Visiting Professorship in Pediatric Urology

to become the first Urogynecology and Pelvic Floor Reconstruction Fellow in the new joint Urology and Obstetrics & Gynecology Fellowship recently approved by the American Board of Urology and American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Our new urology residents are Philip Barbosa MD from the University of Minnesota, Smita De MD, PhD from University of Washington, and Mark Hsu MD from Stanford University. This spring as a medical student Mark Hsu and faculty member Craig Comiter initiated a preclinical urology course in which many faculty gave noon talks to continue to attract some of our best students into urology.

US News & World Report again recognized Stanford Urology and for the first time also recognized Pediatric Urology in separate listings. Since we strive as a faculty to give outstanding urologic care, we appreciate this external vote of confidence. I have tried to recruit faculty members to whom I'd sent my own family, and it is beginning to show.

Happy trails this summer.

Linda M. Shortliffe



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Liao featured on ABC News

Joseph Liao, MD was featured on ABC News following publication of "Optical biopsy of human bladder neoplasia with in vivo confocal laser endomicroscopy" (Sonn, GA, Jones, SN,



Dr. Joseph Liao

Tarin TV, Du CB, Mach KE, Jensen, KC, Liao JC). Dr. Liao is leading a first-of-its-kind study of Confocal laser endomicroscopy – a new endoscopic imaging technology using the flexible microscope known as "Cell-

Vizio" – to examine tumors inside the bladder. He says the resolution is so clear that his team has been able to determine if there is cancer present, even before taking a biopsy.

The device is still investigational in urology patients, but it has already been used successfully in the stomach. In one previous trial involving gastrointestinal cancer, researchers say the scope was able to identify cancerous tissue that traditional endoscopic exams miss about 50 percent of the time.

Pan Selected for Dean's Spring 2010 Postdoctoral Fellowship

Ying Pan, PhD, a post-doctoral scholar in the **Liao Lab**, is the recipient of a Dean's Postdoctoral fellowship award in 2010. The Dean's Postdoctoral Fellowship at the School of Medicine is a longstanding program in support of postdoctoral research. The fellowships are made possible through generous gifts to the school. Dr. Pan's award of \$21,500 in stipend support will be made from the Aaron Fund, and is made for her postdoctoral research project entitled, "Selection of Tumor-Specific Peptides for Targeted Imaging of Bladder Carcinoma."



Stanford Urology News is published for current and former faculty, residents, physicians, and friends of the Department.

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Dr. Pan has also been generously supported by the Ernest Gallo Fund to the Department of Urology. Congratulations Ying!

Hunter Wessels, 13th Dorothy Fenmore Visiting Professor

Dr. Hunter Wessels, Professor and Nelson Chair in Urology at the University of Washington School of Medicine was the 13th Dorothy Fenmore Visiting Professor from January 28-29, 2010. He gave two lectures to residents and faculty on "Urological Complications of Pelvic Fracture" and "Management and Prevention of Renal Injuries." As part of the Visiting Professorship, residents presented cases to Dr. Wessels for discussion, followed by Urology Case and Research Presentations by the Residents, Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows. The Dorothy Fenmore Visiting Professorship Lecture was titled, "Prevention and Intervention Diabetic Erectile Dysfunction."



Chief Residents Drs. Chris Elliot and Ilene Wong with Fenmore Visiting Professor Dr. Hunter Wessels

AUA 2010 Presentations

World Congress of Pediatric Urology (#7): Epidemiologic Trends in Penile Anomalies and Hypospadias in California 1985-2006 Christopher Elliott, Meira Falkowitz-Halpern, Yvonne Maldonado, Linda Shortliffe; World Congress of Pediatric Urology(#13): Ex-Premature Infant Boys with Hypospadias are Similar in Size to Age-Matched, Ex-Premature Infant Boys without Hypospadias Michael Hsieh, David Alonzo, Edmond Gonzales, Eric Jones, Lars Cisek, David Roth; World Congress of Pediatric Urology(#MP38): The Risk of Cancer Associated with Imaging-Related Radiation During Monitoring of Vesicoureteral Reflux Using Fluoroscopic Voiding Cystourethrogram Curtis Clark, Tatum Tarin, Rajesh Shinghal, William Kennedy; (#49): Comparison of 2.6mm and 1.4mm Imaging Probes for Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy of the Urinary Tract Winifred Adams Katherine Wu, Geoffrey Sonn, Kristin Jensen, Joseph C. Liao; (#75): Dynamic Real Time Microscopy of the Urinary Tract: An Imaging Atlas-Based on Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy Katherine Wu, Winifred Adams, Geoffrey Sonn, Kristin Jensen, Joseph C. Liao; (#50): Bladder Cancer Characteristics and Survival in 23,879 Patients from the Veterans Affairs Central Cancer Registry (VACCR) Jen-Jane Liu, John T. Leppert, Rajesh Shinghal, Harcharan Gill, Joseph C. Presti, Jr, Simon Kimm, Mark L. Gonzalvo; (#251): Small Prostates and High Grade Disease - Biology of Artifact? Jen-Jane Liu, John McNeal, Michelle Ferrari, Rosie Nolley, Joseph C. Presti, Jr; (#351): Career Outcomes of Urology Residency Match Cohorts from 1986-1998 Linda Shortliffe, Randall Baldassarre, Alexandra Tilt, Allison Grossman; (#601): A Versatile Biosensor Platform for Rapid Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Directly from Urine Samples Kathleen E. Mach, Ruchika Mohan, Mei-Chiung Shih, Ellen Jo Baron, Vincent Gau, Pak Kin Wong, Joseph C. Liao; (#817): Utilization of Partial and Radical Nephrectomy in the VA Health Care System Geoffrey A. Sonn, Rajesh Shinghal, R. James Yu, Benjamin I. Chung, Sandy Srinivas, Joseph C. Presti, John T. Leppert; (#835): Primary Testicular Lymphoma: Analysis of 155 Cases from the Veterans Affairs Central Cancer Registry Simon Y. Kimm, Rajesh Shinghal, Jen Jane Liu, Sandy Srinivas, James Brooks, Joseph Presti, John T. Leppert; (#965): Characterization and Preclinical Targeting of Human Bladder Cancer Stem Cells Keith Syson Chan, Jens-Peter Volkmer, Mark Chao, Linda Shortliffe, Irving Weissman; (#1035): Randomized multicenter clinical trial shows efficacy of myofascial physical therapy in women with interstitial cystitis/painful bladder syndrome (IC/PBS) Christopher Payne, Mary Pat Fitzgerald, David Burks, J. Curtis Nickel, Emily Lukacz, Karl Kreder, Toby Chai, Phil Hanno, Robert Mayer, Claire Yang, Kenneth Peters, Harris Foster, J. Richard Landis, Lyi Cen, Kathleen Probert, John Kusek; (#1257): Ultrasound Renal Parenchymal Area Correlates with Reflux Resolution in Children Without Urinary Tract Infection Ilene Wong, Curtis Clark, Tin Ngo, Jen-Jane Liu, Hsi-Yang Wu, Linda Shortliffe; (#1362): Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Nephron-sparing Options in the Management of Small Renal Masses Steven Chang, Lauren Cipriano, Lauren Harshman, Benjamin Chung; (#1790): Health Care Disparities in Medical and Surgical Treatment of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia Alka Mithal, Gurkopal Singh, Ajitha Mannalithara, Rachna Malani, George Triadafilopoulos, Harcharan Gill; (#2044): The Impact of Common Medications on Serum Prostate-Specific Antigen Levels: Analysis of National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Steven Chang, Lauren Harshman, Jay Bhattacharya, Joseph Presti; Course #841C: Prostate Cancer Diagnostics: PSA, Prostate Biopsy and Beyond J. Stephen Jones, Joseph Presti, Jr; Panel: Painful Bladder Syndrome: What Happened to Interstitial Cystitis? Moderator: Alan J. Wein, MD; Presenters: Deborah Erickson, Christopher Payne, Jorgen Nordling; Plenary Session II: Pediatric Urology Highlights Linda Shortliffe; Plenary Session V: Advanced Prostate Cancer Take-Home Messages Mark Gonzalvo; Plenary Session V: Urodynamics Take-Home Messages Craig Comiter