

January 2025 | Monthly Newsletter



MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

2025



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*Sponsored by the UCSF Department of Surgery*

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# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

Happy New Year to all our  
Muriel Steele Society members!

Please read below to see upcoming events and highlights  
of member achievements!

## The MSS Surgeon Spotlight Series!



Starting in September, MSS began a new initiative titled “**Portraits of Surgeons**” that will highlight 12 phenomenal MSS members in the Family Waiting Room at Parnassus and in the Adult Wards on the 6th floor at Mission Bay from September 2024 through February 2025.

The December highlights are **Dr. Marley Rashad**, Obstetrician & Gynecologist and Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellow (left) and **Dr. Fernanda Romero-Hernandez**, General Surgery Resident (right).







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## New Senior Resident Spotlight!

*Danielle Gillard, OHNS*



### What is your favorite memory from training?

Getting to perform a primary total laryngectomy alone with the fellow-- this case solidified my choice to pursue a Head and Neck Fellowship.

### What's the best piece of advice you've received during your training?

Always take the time to introduce yourself and strike up friendly conversation with colleagues- even if they are not in your field- you never know when those connections can lead to new opportunities (in your career, research, surgical techniques, patient care, etc).

### What do you like to do for fun?

Go to a concert at one of SF's iconic venues, try to find the best hamburger in the Bay Area and catch up with my friends!

## Faculty Highlights!



### Dr. Rita Mukhtar

Dr. Mukhtar received a \$450K Translational Research Award from METAvivor! She will lead the multicenter PLUMB study, a groundbreaking trial evaluating ctDNA in metastatic lobular breast cancer.

### Dr. Lucy Zumwinkle Kornblith

Dr. Kornblith has been named the Elsbach-Richards Endowed Chair in Surgery!! A true trailblazer in trauma care and surgical research, Dr. Kornblith's work is shaping the future of medicine.



### Dr. Jasmine Wong

Dr. Wong was selected as a 2024 PISCES Teaching Awardee. Her commitment to clinical excellence & compassionate teaching was honored at the PISCES Hail & Farewell Celebration



## Past and Upcoming Events!

### *Surgical Skills Lab Open House!*

This past month the Department of Surgery had an open house for its brand new Surgical Skills Lab!



### *Parenting in Surgery Info Session!*

Stay tuned for a virtual information session in February on the Parenting in Surgery Initiative! Attendees will be able to ask Dr. Lan Vu and Alexis Colley questions about the initiative at this event. The exact date will be announced soon!

### *Academic Surgical Congress!*

The Academic Surgical Congress will be held in Las Vegas, NV February 11-13 this year! Stay tuned for MSS highlights in our future newsletters. Check out this link for UCSF-affiliated presentations:

#### **REMINDER:**

### *UCSF Community Climate Survey!*

Faculty, please remember to complete the UCSF Community Climate Survey by the February 23rd deadline! Your feedback helps UCSF continue to foster a culture of belonging for all faculty, staff, and learners. Access your personal link at <https://ucsfclimate.ucsf.edu/>





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## AWS Updates

Listen to AWS Podcast here:

Produced by the AWS Communications Committee, podcasts feature inspiring interviews with women surgeons recorded during national meetings, in hospitals, and at the AWS annual conference. Hear from leaders in healthcare, research, and education.



Read and Write for the AWS Blog here:

Explore insightful articles or contribute your own voice to the AWS blog!

Apply to be an author today!



Thanks for reading!

**MSS Communications Committee:**

*Resident Leads:* Alexis Colley, Fernanda Romero-Hernandez

*Medical Student Lead:* Mandeep Kaur

*Newsletter:* Reta Behnam, Allison Chang

*Social Media:* Rachel Huynh, Nikki Mahendru, Reta Behnam

**If you have anything you would like to feature (publications, advice, work photos and achievements, family or personal photos and achievements, etc) in this new section of our newsletters, please send an email to [themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu](mailto:themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu)!**

For more information about the Muriel Steele Society,  
**please visit our website or follow us on Twitter and Instagram.**

Have an opportunity or event that you'd like to share with the MSS membership?

**Email us at [themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu](mailto:themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu).**



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