

July 2025 | Monthly Newsletter



# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY



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*Sponsored by the UCSF Department of Surgery*

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Newsletter by Grace Kloss

Instagram: @MURIELSTEELESOCIETY\_UCSF

<https://murielsteelesociety.ucsf.edu>



## MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

Happy July to all our Muriel Steele Society members! San Francisco's summer fog might be rolling in, but we hope this month's newsletter brings a bit of brightness your way.

Below you'll find updates, celebrations, and highlights of MSS members across specialties!

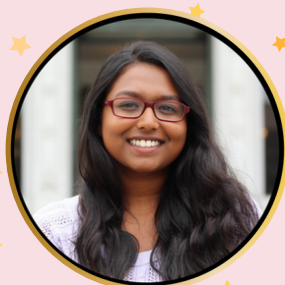
Several MSS students received year-long Inquiry Funding for research and scholarly work in the Department of Surgery!



Manami Diaz Tsuzuki



Shraddha Pandey



Jessica Santhakumar



Zuivanna Rivas



Sabrina Sedano

**Manami Diaz Tsuzuki**, Optimizing Administration of Postoperative Multimodal Pain Regimens: A Multi-Methods Approach, **Dr. Tasce Bongiovanni**

**Shraddha Pandey**, Piloting a Clinical Decision Support Tool for Prescribing Postoperative Opioids, **Dr. Elizabeth Wick**

**Jessica Santhakumar**, Mastering the use of intraoperative retractors: an innovative hands on curriculum for surgical residents, **Dr Clara Gomez-Sanchez**

**Zuivanna Rivas**, Complication Rates and Costs of Surgical Management of Lymphedema in a Nationwide Inpatient Cohort, **Dr. John Rose**

**Sabrina Sedano**, Area based social determinants of health and disparities in pediatric biliary disease: a multi-center study, **Dr. Lan Vu**

**Congratulations to the students and their dedicated mentors for this exciting achievement and continued commitment to advancing research!**



## Celebrate UCSF Chief Residents!

Last month, residency programs celebrated the end of the year and honored their Chief Residents as they began their next chapter.

### Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery

OHNS celebrated with a Sooy Year-End Graduation weekend including the resident research symposium and a graduation dinner!

Scan this code for some gratitude and advice from their Chiefs!



### Orthopedic Surgery

Orthopedic Surgery held their annual Bones Ball, honoring the graduating residents and fellows, recognized faculty achievements, and reflected on a year of mentorship, growth, and excellence.

### General Surgery

General Surgery honored their Chief Residents with a memorable evening celebrating gratitude and community.



### Neurosurgery

Neurosurgery had a wonderful time celebrating their residents at graduation. Congrats to Dr. Arati Patel who won Best Senior Clinical Research and Dr. Clara Starkweather who won Best Senior Basic Science Research!

### Obstetrics and Gynecology

Obstetrics and Gynecology held a memorable resident graduation, with residents and faculty coming together to celebrate and reflect on their accomplishments.



**Congratulations to these programs and all of our graduating Chief Residents—we're so proud of you and all you've accomplished!**



## MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

Congrats to Dr. Sima Portan on her Appointment as **Chief of Urologic Oncology!**



**Dr. Sima Portan, MD, MPH**

Dr. Sima Porten, is a national expert in bladder cancer, known for her outstanding leadership and contributions to the field.

Since joining UCSF, Dr. Porten has expanded the bladder cancer program, brought cutting-edge innovations like blue light cystoscopy to both clinic and OR settings, and led numerous clinical trials,

As Associate Professor of Urology, Fellowship Director, and Co-Director of the UCSF/UCATS Global Fellowship Program with the Uganda Cancer Institute, Dr. Porten continues to advance clinical and translational research while mentoring the next generation of urologic oncologists.

Dr. Amy Fiedler is a national leader pushing boundaries in transplant innovation, advanced heart failure care, and global health equity. At UCSF, she has helped establish the institution as a go-to center for cutting-edge cardiac care, leading efforts in heart transplantation, mechanical circulatory support, and quality improvement. Beyond UCSF, Dr. Fiedler serves as Surgical Director of Team Heart in Rwanda, where she works to expand access to life-saving cardiac surgery and build local capacity.

Congrats to Dr. Amy Fielder on her Appointment as the **Surgical Director of Heart Transplantation & Mechanical Circulatory Support.**



**Dr. Amy Fielder, MD, MSc**





## MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

Association of Women  
Surgeons-American Surgical  
Association Surgical Leaders  
Fellowship Visiting Professor  
Muriel Steele Society Brunch

DR. AMANDA  
LAIRD


WED, JULY 23  
10-11 AM

CHAIR'S CONFERENCE ROOM  
S322, PARNASSUS



MSS is hosting a brunch with Dr. Laird for medical students and residents. This is a great opportunity to connect with Dr. Laird, hear about her path in surgery, and seek career advice.

Dr. Laird is Professor of Surgery at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Chief of Endocrine Surgery at Rutgers Cancer Institute. She is visiting UCSF as the recipient of the prestigious 2025 Association of Women Surgeons-American Surgical Association Surgical Leaders Fellowship Grant

If you're interested in attending, please  
RSVP by Friday, July 4th:   
Breakfast will be provided!



## AWS Updates

To all our faculty, residents, and trainees—don't miss out on the **invaluable resources** available through membership in the **Association of Women Surgeons (AWS)**.

If you have any questions or need assistance in utilizing your benefits, feel free to reach out to the MSS Communications Committee.

## Upcoming Events

- AWS Clinical Practice Committee for the Surgeons' Career and Leadership Professional Education Lecture Series (SCALPELS)
  - July 17<sup>th</sup> from 8-9pm EDT: Alternate Career Paths-Coaching
  - July 24<sup>th</sup> from 8-9pm EDT: Alternate Career Paths-Innovation
  - July 31<sup>st</sup> from 8-9pm EDT: Redefining Success Panel
- July 14<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm EDT: Building an Academic Foundation: Preparing for promotion from day 1
- July 28<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm EDT: Cutting Edge Conversations with the Latino Surgical Society (LSS)
- July 30<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm EDT: AWS Publications Webinar: Ergonomics

## Faculty:

AWS colleagues invite you to join them as a member of the Association of Women Surgeons.

## Residents:

All UCSF residents in the Department of Surgery are institutional members of AWS through UCSF—we encourage you to fully leverage the diverse range of benefits AWS membership offers.

## Medical Students:

Medical students are encouraged to join AWS for a fee of \$25—becoming a member will provide multiple networking opportunities for students at AWS events.

For full details and event registration information, visit the **AWS Event Calendar**.

AWS  
Benefits

## Networking Opportunities:

Connect with a global community of female surgeons, fostering collaboration and mentorship.

## Educational Resources:

Gain access to exclusive webinars, workshops, and publications to stay informed on the latest advancements.

## Mentorship Programs:

Benefit from mentorship opportunities that can provide guidance and support at every stage of your career.

## Career Development

Access resources aimed at enhancing your professional skills and advancing your career in surgery.

**Thanks for reading!**

MSS Communications Committee:

Resident Leads: Alexis Colley, Fernanda Romero-Hernandez

Medical Student Lead: Allison Chang

Newsletter: Grace Kloss, Faaizah Arshad

Social Media: Alex Lopes, Rachel Huynh

**If you have anything you would like to feature (articles, advice, work photos/achievements, family/personal photos/achievements, etc.) in our newsletters, please send an email to [themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu](mailto:themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu).**

The Muriel Steele Society is an inclusive community dedicated to inspiring, supporting, and promoting surgeons so they can thrive at all stages of their careers. We will be hosting events throughout the year to foster a strong community of allies and to achieve the goal of continued excellence at UCSF. Our overarching goal is to advocate for a culture of belonging that is focused on expanding the advancement of all surgeons. All surgeons and students interested in surgery are welcome. Please forward to anyone who you think might like to be included in the MSS. If you are interested in membership, please email us at [themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu](mailto:themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu)

**For more information about the Muriel Steele Society,** please visit our [website](https://murielsteelesociety.ucsf.edu).

**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).

**Want to become more involved with the Muriel Steele Society?** Email us at [themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu](mailto:themurielsteelesociety@ucsf.edu) for more information.



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