

April 2026 | Monthly Newsletter



MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY



**APR.**

*Sponsored by the UCSF Department of Surgery*

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**Newsletter by: Faaizah Arshad**



# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

**Happy April, Muriel Steele Society members!**

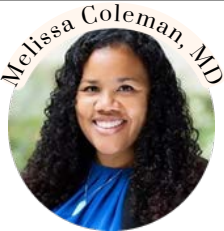
Below find updates, celebrations, and highlights.



## Highlights of Achievement:



Congratulations to Frennie Acuesta, Medical Student Education Coordinator and a valued member of the Department of Surgery staff for being selected to serve as Vice-Chair of the Coordinators of Surgical Education Committee (2026-2028)!



Congratulations to Dr. Melissa Coleman for her selection to the Society of Thoracic Surgeons 2026 - 2027 Leadership Institute!



Congratulations to Dr. Tasce Bongiovanni and Dr. Johannes Kratz on their elections to the Society of University Surgeons (SUS)!



Congratulations to General Surgery Resident Dr. Jessica Santos-Parker who received the Outstanding Resident Teacher Award from the Association for Surgical Education!

The Medical Student Committee is excited to welcome our new 2026-2027 Medical Student Leadership!

**Co-Chairs:** Rachel Huynh & Eva Kitlen

**Vice-Chairs:** Hailey Johnson, Grace Kloss, Kara Ushijima

Please join us in congratulating them as they step into these important roles! We're excited to see the contributions they will make in the year ahead.



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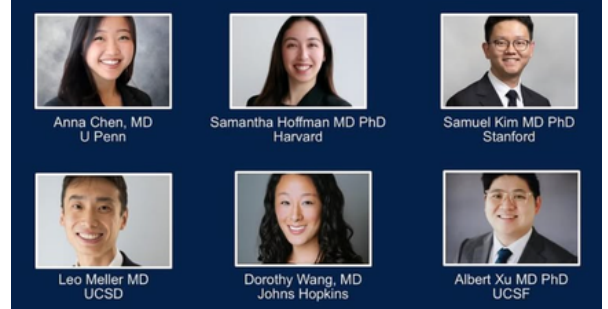
## Match Day 2026. Welcome to UCSF!



**2026-2027 General Surgery Preliminary Interns**



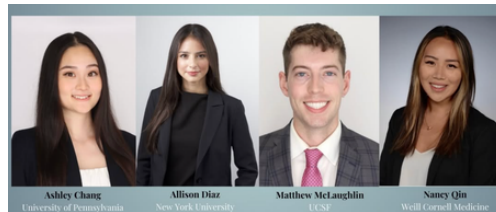
**2026-2027 General Surgery Categorical Interns**



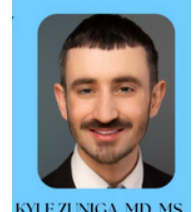
**Ophthalmology**



We are excited to welcome you, Class of 2031!



**Plastic Surgery Categorical Interns**



**KYLE ZUNIGA, MD, MS**

**Endourology Fellowship Program**



**Orthopedic Surgery**



**Urology**



**OBGYN**



**Otolaryngology**



**Plastic Surgery**



**Neurosurgery**



**Nina Moisciwitsch, PhD**  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School

**Vascular Surgery Integrated Categorical Intern**



# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY



## Recent Events!



### Society of Surgical Oncology

Left: Drs. Chandler, Maker and Alvarado represent UCSF Breast Surgery Fellowship at SSO 2026. Right: Dr. Rita Mukhtar presented on Lobular Breast Cancer at Society of Surgical Oncology 2026!



### #NASBS

Congrats to the Jiam Lab, in the UCSF Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, for representing UCSF in San Diego at the 2026 North American Skull Base Society Meeting (NASBS), and winning a Poster of Distinction Award!



### National Women's Day



UCSF Orthopedic Surgery on National Women's Day!

### Ophthalmology Community



UCSF Ophtho at their Lake Tahoe Ski Trip!



# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY



## More Achievements!



### Lung Transplant Team

Congrats to the UCSF Lung Transplant Program for performing three lung transplants at the same time and also completing a total of four life-saving lung transplants in a 48-hour period!



### UCSF Spine Center's Prestigious Certification



### Spine Surgery

UCSF has earned tjcommission's Advanced Certification in Spine Surgery! This makes UCSF Health one of only five hospitals in California and 46 nationwide to receive this advanced certification. We're so proud!

### Upcoming Opportunity

Join UCSF Neurosurgery in Napa for their annual three-day Neurosurgery Update course to learn about the latest advances in the field, including an expanded neuroradiology component.

**Register now:** [neurosurgeryupdate.ucsf.edu](https://neurosurgeryupdate.ucsf.edu)





# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

## AWS Membership Resources

To all 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 Opportunities:

- **April 6 at 7pm EST**- Medical Student Committee
- **April 7 at 8pm EST**- Shining Star Leadership Coaching Summary Session
- **April 8 at 8pm EST**- Surgical Mentoring Program: Balancing Family and Career
- **April 13 at 7pm EST**- AWS Industry Talk with Drs. Jackson and Jain
- **Apr 19 to Apr 23**- World Congress of Surgery, International Surgical Week ISW 2026
- **Apr 19 at 12pm EST**- AWS Medical Student Monthly Meeting
- **Apr 21 at 7pm EST**- Better Mentor, Bigger Impact: Visibility and Intersectionality of Differences
- See the AWS Events list for additional opportunities:



### AWS Membership:

**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 the AWS conference taking place in SF later this year!

## AWS Benefits

### Networking Opportunities:

Connect with a global community of 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!

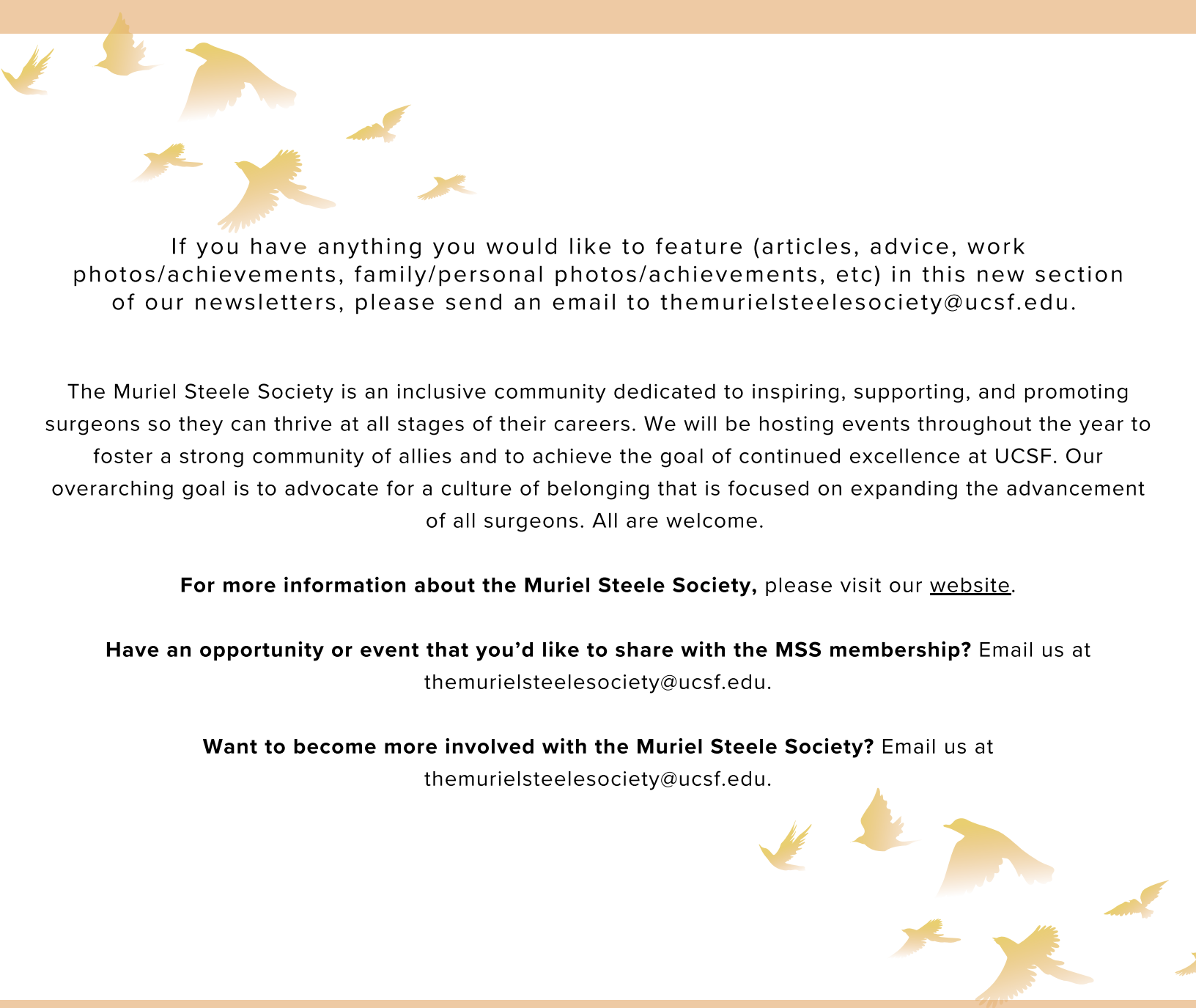
MSS Communications Committee:

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 this new section of 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 are welcome.

**For more information about the Muriel Steele Society,** please visit our [website](#).

**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).



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