

October 2025 | Monthly Newsletter



MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY



OCT.

*Sponsored by the UCSF Department of Surgery*

**Newsletter by: Faaizah Arshad**



# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

Happy October!

Please read below for highlights and events.

## Highlights and Achievements

Congratulations to Dr. Phoebe Miller, MS, MD, UCSF General Surgery Resident for being officially named a 2025–26 NIH National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) StARR Scholar!



Congratulations to Shraddha Pandey, Jacqueline Friskey, Katherine Miclau, Maithily Diaz, Vanessa Mora, and Fernanda Romero Hernandez, for winning runner-up for the 'Best Medical Student Presentation' at the 2025 AWS Starr Research Forum for their project titled: "Identifying Barriers and Facilitators of Professional Advancement Among Underrepresented Groups in Academic Surgery." Shraddha presented the project.



## Recent: September MSS Grand Rounds

Carolyn Sangokoya, MD, PhD, presented at the Department of Surgery Muriel Steele Society Grand Rounds on building a community of women in science and medicine through mentorship. The session highlighted the importance of physician-scientist networking and community building, and she shared about the Women Physician Scientists (WPSS) group at UCSF as a platform for connection, support, and mentorship among women physician-scientists.





## MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

## Congratulations to the Faculty Recipients of the 2025 UCSF Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring Award!



**Caitlin Collins, MD**

Trauma & Surgical Critical  
Care



**Joseph Cuschieri, MD, FACS**

Trauma & Surgical Critical  
Care



**April Mendoza, MD, MPH**

Trauma & Surgical Critical  
Care



**Nasim Sobhani, MD**

Obstetrics, Gynecology, and  
Reproductive Sciences



**Shareef Syed, MBChB,  
MRCS, FACS, MAEd**

Transplant Surgery



**Lucas Thornblade, MD, MPH**

Surgical Oncology



**Mark Zhao, MD**

Colon and Rectal Surgical  
Oncology



**Patience Afulani, PhD,  
MD, MPH**

Obstetrics, Gynecology, and  
Reproductive Sciences



**Patricia Loftus, MD**

Otolaryngology Head and  
Neck Surgery



**Lisa Pascual, MD**

Orthopaedic Surgery



**Brian Feeley, MD**

Orthopaedic Surgery



Recent: MSS x Stitch Lab Event

Muriel Steele Society and The Stitch Lab at UCSF held a workshop on suturing and knot-tying to create an opportunity for medical students to learn and practice surgical closure techniques.



Recent: News Feature- Project REACH Pilot ZSFG Drop-in Clinic

This project is a partnership between DPH Whole Person Integrated Care and ZSFG Division of Surgery with technical support from The Better Lab. With a \$100,000 grant from San Francisco General Hospital Foundation, Project REACH is helping patients receive surgical procedures sooner than later. Read and watch the following ABC7News feature titled "SF pilot program is 1st in the nation to provide surgical care for the unhoused".



ABC7News Feature:

Introducing the 2024 Equity and Innovation Grantees:





Recent: MSS Mental Health & Resilience in Surgery

The UCSF Muriel Steele Society held a special dinner event on Mental Health and Resilience in Surgery. The evening began with a keynote presentation by Dr. Carter Lebares, Associate Professor of Surgery at UCSF and Director of the UCSF Center for Mindfulness in Surgery. Emma Peat, Director of Education Programming at NAMI San Francisco, highlighted local programs and resources. The night concluded with a shared meal and opportunities to connect with peers and mentors!



Recent: ACS Clinical Congress Global Surgery Mixer

REGISTER HERE

ACS Clinical Congress  
**GLOBAL SURGERY SOCIAL**  
 October 4, 2025  
 7:00-9:00 PM CT  
 AT VU ROOFTOP BAR  
 133 E CERMAK RD, CHICAGO

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL:  
 GLOBALSURGERY@BCM.EDU

UCSF CHESA co-hosted a global surgery networking event at the 2025 American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in Chicago with Stanford, Harvard, Baylor, and the Association of Academic Global Surgery.



# MURIEL STEELE SOCIETY

## Recent: DOC SF 2025 Conference



The Digital Orthopaedics Revolution took place on October 3, 2025 at Hyatt Regency SF with Dr. Stefano Bini and Maria Manetti Shrem. Attendees explored the latest advancements in AI and MedTech innovation while connecting with fellow professionals to stay ahead of the curve in the industry.

## Upcoming: OBGYN CME Conference

NEW FALL CME COURSE: OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY UPDATES: WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE TELL US?  
**October 22 - 24, 2025**

Topics covered will include: prenatal screening, gynecologic surgery, cancer prevention, and menopausal care along with expert insights into managing common and complex conditions in both obstetrics and gynecology.



### TARGET AUDIENCE

Designed for practicing physicians, residents, nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants seeking an update on a wide range of current issues in obstetrics and gynecology.

Register here:





*This page is courtesy of Grace Kloss.*

✦ ✦ **ACS Clinical Congress** ✦ ✦

October 4-7, 2025, Chicago, IL  
**Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**



**Gallbladder and Common Bile Duct for the General Surgeon, Video Based Education (9:45-11:15 AM): Use of Fluorescent Visualization For Dissection For A Robotic Assisted Completion Cholecystectomy**



**Surgical Aortic Valve Replacement Stratification by the Modified 5-Item Frailty Index Post-Implementation of a Transcatheter Valve Replacement Program at a Veterans Affairs Health System**



**Barriers and Facilitators to Timely Surgical Care for Distal Radius Fractures: A Qualitative Analysis**



**Piloting a Patient-Centered Clinical Decision Support Tool in the Electronic Health Record for Post-Surgical Opioid Prescription at Discharge**



**MRI for Trauma-Associated Neck Pain: Think Again**



**Key Problems and Proposed Solutions Identified by Older Surgical Patients in Problem-Solving Therapy Sessions: A Qualitative Study**



**Bladder Exstrophy Iliac Osteotomies: 3D Modeling Comparative Analysis of Current Approaches' Impact on Intrapelvic Volume and Acetabular Version**



**Moderator for Geriatric/Palliative Care Session**



**Coping With Crisis: The Resilience of Dr. Mary Crawford in the Face Of Wartime Challenges**  
 presenting at History of Surgery Poster Competition



**Updated American Thyroid Association Guidelines for Thyroid Nodules – What's New (2:30-4:00 PM): Management of Low-Risk Thyroid Cancer**



**Updated American Thyroid Association Guidelines for Thyroid Nodules – What's New (2:30-4:00 PM): Exploring Levels of Intraoperative Supervision and Autonomy: What Do "Indirect Supervision" and "Practice Ready" Mean in General Surgery Training?**



*This page is courtesy of Grace Kloss.*

## ACS Clinical Congress

### ACS 2025 UC Reception

Sunday, Oct 5th from 6 PM - 9 PM CT

Marriott Marquis Chicago (2121 S Prairie Ave, Chicago, IL 60616)

### Monday, October 6th



**Assessing the Evidence Behind Guidelines in Cardiothoracic Surgery: A Meta-Analysis**



**Effects of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) Introduction on Surgical Aortic Valve Replacement (SAVR) Patient Risk Scores, Surgical Techniques, and Outcomes in a Veterans Affairs Healthcare System (VAHCS)**



**The Impact of Body Mass Index on Outcomes of Staged Breast Reduction Before Nipple-Sparing Mastectomy with Immediate Autologous Breast Reconstruction**



**Exploring Barriers to Accessing Outpatient Surgical Care for People Experiencing Homelessness**



**Humanitarian Crisis and Armed Conflict: Ethical Obligations Surrounding Healthcare (12:45-2:15 PM): Trauma Care in South Sudan**



**Prolonged Length of Stay in Elective Colectomy Patients: Insights from Artificial Intelligence-Based Medical Record Review**



**Differences in Surgical Resident Workload and Wellbeing**



**Ethical Considerations in the Surgical Care of Undocumented Patients (2:30-4:00 PM): Considerations for Transplantation in Non-US Citizens**



**Exploring Team Dynamics and Motivations in the Operating Room: A Qualitative Study**



**Patient Factors Influence Patient Reported Outcome Measurement Collection Rates but Not Clinical Benefit Following Total Joint Arthroplasty**



*This page is courtesy of Grace Kloss.*

❖❖ **ACS Clinical Congress** ❖❖

**Tuesday, October 7th**

We are thrilled to share that Dr. Nancy Ascher will be honored as an “Icon in Surgery” in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the field. Congratulations on this remarkable achievement!



**Hematopoietic Cytokines and the Platelet Axis in Thromboinflammatory Complications After Injury**



**Updates in Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases (Moderator 9:45-11:15 AM): Multidisciplinary Management Strategies for Colorectal Liver Metastases—Addressing the Disease Biology**



**Distant Pancreatic Cystic Lesions (PCLs) Are Associated with Fewer Positive Lymph Nodes in Patients with Solid Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (PDAC)**



**Machine Learning-Based Correlation of Venous Morphology with Hemorrhagic Shock Stage Using Volumetric M-Mode Ultrasound in a Swine Model**



**Trends in Cyst Size of Resected Intraductal Papillary Mucinous Neoplasms over Time—has the Evolution of the International Association of Pancreatology (IAP) Guidelines Impacted Surgical Thresholds?**



**Landscape and Priorities for Simulation-Based Education in Global Children Surgery**



**Engineering a Synthetic Thrombopoietin Receptor to Enable Tunable Hematopoietic Stem and Progenitor Cell Expansion**



**Leveraging Local Expertise to Expand Hepatopancreatobiliary (HPB) Surgery Subspecialty Care to the Community: Outcomes and Lessons Learned over Four Years**



**From Prevention to Intervention: A Quality Improvement Program for Peripheral Artery Disease at a Safety Net Hospital**



# 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:

- **October 4, 5, 6, 7** - ACS Clinical Congress
- **October 5** - 2025 AWSF Awards Dinner & Gala
- **October 19** - AWS Medical Student Monthly Meeting
- **October 22** - AWS Publications Webinar: Preparing for Fellowship
- **October 24** - Apply to join a 2025-2026 AWS Committee.
- **Support women in surgery** as a 2025 AWS Conference Chair Sponsor and/or AWSF Gala Table Sponsor!
- See the AWS Events list for additional details:



### 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.