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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Roy Fujitani, President Elect, Western Vascular Society



Dear Friends in Western,

It is my honor to be the editor of the True Lumen Newsletter for this year! I expect that the bulk of the content will come from you, our fine members. Be sure to send wvs@surgicalcs.com your institutional updates, photos, job openings, fun facts and promotional celebrations.

I have been busy working with an ad hoc committee with President Dr. Wei Zhou, Dr. Nii Kabu Kabutey, DEI Chair, and Dr. Sharon Kiang, DEI Committee Member, to refine the bylaws and bring Western into the future strong. Bylaw revisions are mainly refining the language from the 80's, and adding a better structure for membership categories. As you may well imagine this is painstaking work.

Earlier this month members received an electronic poll. Forty eight members voted unanimously to accept the new candidate member category and the clarification of membership structure. Congratulations to the

committee and the membership for sharing the dream to grow the membership!

Have you submitted an abstract? Sponsored a paper or a new member lately? It is my hope you enjoy each of these privileges of membership. In this edition of the newsletter we will feature the work of Dr. Robert Chang and the membership committee who are absolutely topping all the past records of applications.

Keep your eyes out for the latest in Western Vascular Society Annual Meeting planning from the Program Chair Dr. Elina Quiroga and her Committee Dr.s Zhou, Abou-Zamzam, Singh, Hiramoto, Woo and Brooke. Program Committee meets May 30th to make their final selections. Authors will be notified by June 8th. Dr. Elna Masuda will be excited to give us a big Aloha welcome September 9-12, 2023, at the Grand Hyatt on Kauai.



2023 WVS President Dr. Wei Zhou enjoying a recent trip on the Maid of the Mist with Dr. Julie Freischlag. (Photo credit: Dr. Rowe)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Robert W. Chang, MD



I am excited to update you on the progress of our membership committee this year. We hit the ground running and have been working diligently to increase our membership base.

I am pleased to inform you that our committee members, Dr. Mahmoud Malas from UC San Diego and Dr. Christian Ochoa from USC, have been invaluable in assisting us in achieving our goals. Through their efforts, we have successfully collected 30 member applications, which is double the number from previous years.

One of the contributing factors to this success has been our meeting location - Hawaii! It is a place that everyone loves and is happy to visit. Additionally, we have updated our membership requirements, allowing surgeons who have not attended a meeting in the past to apply. This change reflects our goal of inclusivity.

and making Western Vascular accessible to all vascular surgeons in the region.

If you have any questions about membership, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at Robert.W.Chang@kp.org. I would be more than happy to answer any queries you may have.

Lastly, I would like to encourage you to share our application link with any friends or colleagues who may be interested in the camaraderie and benefits of membership. We welcome all those who share our passion for vascular surgery.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Bobby

Candidate Membership Coming soon!

VSIG COMMITTEE REPORT

It was great to see so many of you at the Fireside Chat and Mentorship Bonfires this year. Drs. Conte, Humphries and Starnes were the panelists for the first event. Drs. Zhou, Rowe and De Virgilio worked with the VSIG Committee on the Mentorship Bonfire last week. Both groups entertained the 12-15 students on the call by answering questions submitted in advance by the students.



Highlight moment of the first event was when Dr. Starnes reminded the students that they are already in the top 2% of intelligent people in the world - so it is not important to be the brightest light in the room...the goal needs to be to help the rest of the room - techs, nurses, patients will remember a doctor that inspires them to shine.

Highlight moment of the second event was the discussion on how to handle failure. Dr. Rowe shared his philosophy on how it is

important to remember your complications and failures as they make you a better surgeon. Next step for the VSIG group is to be paired with residents to work on a Distal Bypass Competition project. Thanks you Drs. O' Banion, Magee and Goshima for your great work with the students!

TOP GUN WINNERS

Dr. Alexa Mordhorst, University of British Columbia, Resident

Competitors Dr. Abdulla Butt and Dr. Tony Gu and I had a wonderful week at the Society for Clinical Vascular Surgery Resident Competition in Miami, taking home the first-place prize!

It was such a fantastic opportunity to go to this event and an absolute pleasure to spend a few days in the sun and warmth of Miami.

In addition to an exhilarating and fun competition, the conference was highly educational and extremely beneficial for our level of training. Without the Western Vascular Society, we would not have had this opportunity and would like to thank the WVS for sponsoring our team. It was a special and memorable experience for all of us and an absolute privilege to be ambassadors of our discipline in our region.



THE MOST COMPLETE ONE-DAY ENDOVASCULAR CONFERENCE

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ENDOVASCULAR CONFERENCE 15th ANNIVERSARY

MAY 26, 2023 HYATT REGENCY SEATTLE SEATTLE, WA

9 CME HOURS

The 2023 Pacific Northwest Endovascular Conference will offer its signature interactive learning format, 70+ world-class faculty, focused breakout sessions, resident competition and Simulation Summit live in Seattle.

MAY 25, 2023 SIMULATION SUMMIT FOR VASCULAR TRAINEES

- Scholarship includes: Registration to Summit & PNEC, Lodging at the Hyatt Regency Seattle, Travel reimbursement (U.S.-based)

MAIN SESSIONS

- Aortic - Modern Management, Lower Extremity, Venous, Physician Practice, Technical Pearls, Tips and Debate

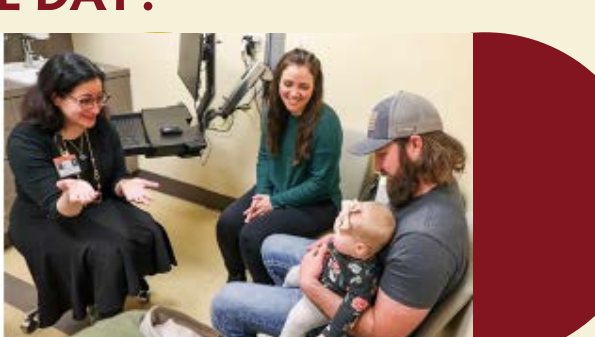
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

- Updates for Advanced Practice Providers, Limb Preservation & Wound Care, The Business of Medicine

Register to attend PNEC-SEATTLE.ORG

GREAT NEWS OF THE DAY!

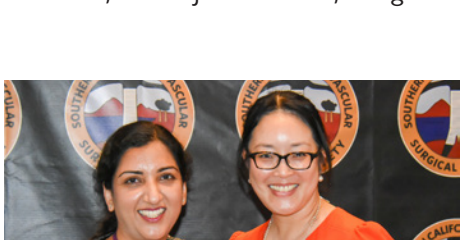
Pictured right is Dr. Sherene Shalhub, who co-lead a team at OHSU to do an Easter weekend save of 8-month-old Blakely who had an AAA. Dr. Shalhub reported it was a beautiful collaboration where everyone brought their A game. Read the full story in the news.ohsu.edu.



PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Program Committee led by Dr. Elina Quiroga are currently reviewing 180 abstracts from over 33 institutions and private practice research teams. Huge kudos in advance to the committee made of the following members: Dr. Karen Woo, Dr. Jade Hiramoto, Dr. Benjamin Brooke, along with Ex Officio Members

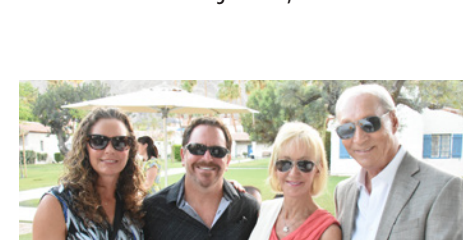
President Dr. Wei Zhou, DEI Chair, Dr. Nii Kabu Kabutey, President Elect Dr. Roy Fujitani, Secretary Treasurer, Dr. Ahmed Abou-Zamzam and Recorder Dr. Niten Singh. Results of the blinded review will be discussed at the May 30th program committee meeting for release to authors June 8, 2023.



Dr. Woo and Dr. Arya who honored Western Vascular Society Past President Dr. Dennis Baker at the Southern California Vascular Surgical Society Annual Meeting in La Quinta, CA.



Dr. Rigberg's Band the Dial Ups



Members Dr. Scott and Carrie Muscant, and Shay McKelvie with Dr. Vince Guzzetta enjoying free time in La Quinta.



Registration is now open for this collegial, family-friendly meeting. July 19-22, 2023 The Chateau Deer Valley • Park City, UT



Preliminary program, registration and hotel information www.rockymountainvascular.org

IDEAS WANTED

Call for Member Contributions

Please email your OR photos, stories of patient success or research victory. You can also nominate a colleague for the Member Feature, or just send us your ideas!



WESTERN VASCULAR SOCIETY 2023 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Program Chair ELINA QUIROGA, MD

MISSION

The Western Vascular Society promotes and inspires education, research, inclusion and leadership in the art and science of compassionate vascular health in the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim.

VISION

The Western Vascular Society (WVS) seeks to advance education and innovation in vascular health through education, research, public awareness and advocacy. WVS membership is recognized in the vascular communities of the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim as a mark of the highest professional achievement. WVS seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health.

VALUES

Education | Research | Public Awareness | Advocacy | Career Development | Diversity