

2014 Faculty Promotions

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based flaps. He also does a significant amount of complex abdominal wall and pelvic reconstructions. Dr. Louie's research interests parallel his clinical practice, focusing on improving clinical outcomes in microsurgical breast and abdominal wall reconstruction. He enjoys teaching both residents and students, and was recently honored with a teaching award from his residents. He is currently the medical student clerkship director for the plastic surgery division. In his free time, Dr. Louie enjoys spending time with his family and participating in outdoor activities such as snowboarding and surfing.



Erik Van Eaton, MD, FACS

Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Van Eaton conducts research in information transfer, communications practices, and information systems design to translate research into practice. A trained medical informatics scientist, Dr. Van Eaton builds collaborative relationships among successful clinical informatics projects at the University

of Washington to bring high-performance clinical information management to bedside decisions. This work led to a spin-out healthcare information technology company from the University of Washington in 2011 called [TransformativeMed, Inc.](#), for which he currently works as a Clinical Design Strategist, helping the company commercialize licensed biomedical informatics technology developed at the University of Washington.

Projects underway by Dr. Van Eaton's research group at the University of Washington include: an NIH-funded project to enhance trauma patient outcomes from mental health comorbidity using workflow-integrated electronic medical records tools; a UW Patient Safety Innovation Fund project to develop a clinical informatics system for better capture of near misses and adverse events by clinical teams on rounds, with combined educational feedback and training; a UW Patient Safety Innovation Fund project to bring clinically actionable protocols to the bedside on clinician smartphones and tablets; and participation in an AHRQ-funded project to leverage electronic medical records for comparative effectiveness research as part of the SCOAP CERTAIN (www.scoap.org) project.

Honors and Awards

Faculty



Dr. Kenneth Gow, Associate Professor, Pediatric Surgery division, was presented The New Member Award by the [Pacific Coast Surgical Association \(PCSA\)](#) for his presentation of ACGME *Case Logs: A National Review of the Rise of Minimally Invasive Surgery Over Two Decades of General Surgery Resident Training*. Dr. Gow is a member of the Washington/British Columbia/Alaska Caucus and was awarded with complimentary registration to the 2015 meeting. This award is presented to a member who joined PCSA within the last 3 years.



Dr. David Flum, Professor of General Surgery and Associate Chair for Research, was selected by the [Brookings Institution](#) to be a member of the [National Medical Device Postmarket Surveillance System Planning Board](#).

The board's goal is to create a robust tracking system, ensure the safety and effectiveness of millions of medical devices, and enhance the quality of patient outcomes. The 22-member group is composed of a broad range of medical device, industry and regulatory experts, 16 of whom are from the private sector, along with five representatives from federal agencies.

The group will focus on three areas of designing an integrated system: governance; practices, policies, and procedures; and business models. Key considerations include system design, legal and privacy policies, infrastructure stability and flexibility, mechanisms to support the use and sharing of patient data, communication policies, and system financing.



Sara Kim, PhD, Research Professor and Director of Educational Innovations and Strategic Programs at the [Institute for Simulation and Interprofessional Studies \(ISIS\)](#) was named Director of the [Center Leadership & Innovation in Medical Education \(CLIME\)](#), formerly the Center for Medical Education.

CLIME was created to advance and support educational excellence at the UW School of Medicine and throughout the WWAMI region. It promotes an integrated continuum of medical, graduate and lifelong education, and strives to foster interprofessional collaborations across health professions. CLIME is committed to supporting the curriculum renewal

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underway at the UW School of Medicine through faculty development and programs to promote scholarship around medical education best practices.



Danielle Lavalley, PharmD, PhD, Research Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery, was awarded \$945,000 from the [Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute \(PCORI\)](#) for her three-year project, “Comparing Engagement Techniques for Incorporating Patient Input in Research Prioritization.” The overarching goal of this study is to inform researchers on how surveys, focus groups, and online

methods compare for involving patients 65 years and older in research prioritization activities. Dr. Lavalley will be supported by her co-investigator, Dr. Jeffrey Jarvik, Professor of Radiology and Neurosurgery, and the staff at the [Surgical Outcomes Research Center \(SORCE\)](#). This award is especially exciting in that it is the first PCORI-sponsored award in the Department of Surgery. Established in 2010 as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, PCORI is authorized by Congress to fund and disseminate research that will provide information about the best available evidence to help patients and their healthcare providers make more informed decisions. PCORI’s research is intended to give patients a better understanding of the prevention, treatment, and care options available, and the science that supports those options.

Read the project abstract: <http://pfaawards.pcori.org/research-results/2014/comparing-engagement-techniques-incorporating-patient-input-research>



Dr. Nahush Mokadam, Associate Professor, Cardiothoracic division, was awarded [Western Thoracic Surgery Association’s \(WTSA\)](#) 2014 Donald B. Doty Educational Award.

Through a generous grant from [Medtronic](#), the WTSA has established the Donald B. Doty Educational Award with the first award in 2005 of \$10,000 being accorded to a group at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

The purpose of this award is:

- To foster innovative educational initiatives in cardiothoracic surgery by WTSA members, and
- To provide an opportunity for the dissemination of this information to other training centers and academic institutions.

Monica Morrison, PA-C, Physician Assistant, Transplant division, received UWMC’s Spring 2014 UW Medicine Cares Award. This award is based on UW Medicine’s Service Culture Guidelines, which are: respect privacy and confidentiality; communicate effectively; conduct myself professionally; be accountable; be committed to my colleagues and to UW Medicine.

A selection from Monica’s nomination reads:

“Monica is one of the best care givers I know because she listens to patient complaints and concerns, works with her team of physicians and nurses in the development of comprehensive care, and makes sure that our patients receive the best care. She is the first one to work and the last to leave. If all we can do for a patient is to provide comfort, then that is where you will find Monica. She is a healer.”



Monica Morrison (pictured middle) was presented her award by Dr. Jorge Reyes, Chief of Transplant Surgery (left), and Geoff Austin, Associate Administrator (right).



Dr. Mike Mulligan, Professor, Cardiothoracic division was elected president of the [Western Thoracic Surgical Association \(WTSA\)](#) at their 2014 annual meeting.

“This is a great honor and recognition from his peers demonstrating the remarkable esteem, respect, and credibility Mike has as an academic cardiothoracic surgeon. Few surgeons are fortunate to have this honor and I know that we are all very proud of Mike. There is no one more deserving or more capable of leading the WTSA, and I am sure he will make as big an impact on the association as he does here at UW every day. He will serve in this position over the next year, culminating in his presidential meeting at Whistler, British Columbia this time next year.” – **Dr. Doug Wood**, Professor and Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Endowed Chair in Lung Cancer Research, University of Washington.

This is well deserved as Dr. Mulligan has had multiple roles in the WTSA (Vice President, Program Committee,

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Council, winner of 3 Samson Resident Paper Awards) and is highly regarded by our peers for his leadership and stature in cardiothoracic surgery.



Dr. Carlos A. Pellegrini, *The Henry N. Harkins Professor & Chair*, was recently elected to the Board of Commissioners of the Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission (TJC) is an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies more than 20,500 health care organizations and programs in the United States. Joint Commission accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

The Board of Commissioners is The Joint Commission's governing body, providing policy leadership and oversight. Board members govern The Joint Commission with a dedication to its mission to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The full board meets three times a year, with an additional retreat focused on The Joint Commission's strategic direction.

Congratulations to Dr. Pellegrini upon this important appointment.

Residents

Dr. Jonathan Sham received first place for his oral presentation entitled "Novel Antibody-Targeted Zirconium-89 Pet Imaging of Hepatocellular Carcinoma" at the 2nd Annual [UW Medicine GME Research Day](#) on May 3, 2014.



Dr. Jonathan Sham accepts his award for First Place Oral Presentation from [Dr. Byron Joyner](#), Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education



Dr. Meera Kotagal accepts the award for Poster Session People's Choice from [Dr. Byron Joyner](#), Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education. Not pictured: Co-presenter and winner, Dr. Morgan Richards

Dr. Meera Kotagal and **Morgan Richards** received the People's Choice Award for their poster presentation entitled "CT or Ultrasound" Diagnostic Imaging in Pediatric Appendicitis" at the 2nd Annual UW Medicine GME Research Day on May 3, 2014.

The [UW Medicine GME Research Day](#), hosted by [Dr. Samuel Browd](#), Associate Professor of neurological surgery, was designed to provide residents and fellows an opportunity and venue to showcase their research, receive expert feedback from faculty judges, network with colleagues from other specialties, and learn more about the path to a successful research career while practicing medicine. Trainees from multiple clinical departments submitted over 60 outstanding abstracts. The UW GME Research Review Committee identified the top 10 abstracts for oral presentations. The remaining abstracts were identified for poster presentations. Judges for both the oral presentations and the poster presentations were faculty, representing multiple clinical specialties across the UW School of Medicine.



Estell Williams, MD

Dr. Williams was elected to membership in the University of Washington chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Founded in the late 1980s by Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Gold, the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) honors medical students, residents, role-model physician teachers and other exemplars recognized for "demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service." The Society is committed to working within and beyond medical education to inspire, nurture and sustain lifelong advocates and activists for patient-centered medical care.