Honors and Awards

Saman Arbabi, MD, MPH, FACS, Professor in the Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Surgery, was awarded $1,497,377 from the **US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command** (USAMRMC) for his proposal *"Topical Modulation of the Burn Wound Inflammatory Response to improve Short and Long Term Outcomes."* The focus of this four-year project will be the investigation of the relationship between p38MAPK signaling, wound inflammatory response, wound healing and long-term scar formation using a burn model in the female red Duroc pig. Dr. Arbabi hypothesizes that topical p38MAPK inhibition will attenuate the depth of the burn by preventing hair-follicle cell apoptosis, attenuate the inflammatory phase of wound healing, and decrease the granulation layer thickness. He proposes that this modification in the early inflammatory response will also reduce thickness and contraction of scars formed after deep partial thickness burn injury. The results of this study will be critical to the implementation of a potential paradigm shift in the clinical treatment of challenging dermal injuries. The ultimate goal is to develop a highly effective safe topical treatment for patients with burn injuries. Dr. Arbabi will be joined on this project by Anne Hocking, PhD, Research Associate Professor, and Research Scientist Adelaide Warsen, both in the Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Surgery.

Farhood Farjah, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Associate Medical Director of the **Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE)**, was awarded $99,274 from the **American College of Chest Physicians CHEST Foundation** in support of his project *"Improving Lung Cancer Staging With a Prediction Model and a Biomarker."* Through a novel collaboration between the Section of Thoracic Surgery, **Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center** Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, and the **Mulligan Lab**, this study focuses on the development of a risk-prediction model for nodal disease among patients with suspected lung cancer. The model is intended to help providers optimize the overall use of diagnostic tests for lung cancer staging. Prior work among surgical patients suggests that the use of such models can mitigate variability in staging practices across centers, reduce the utilization of invasive diagnostic modalities, and at least maintain if not improve the accuracy of lung cancer staging. The current project seeks to apply risk-prediction to a much broader population—specifically those with suspected or confirmed non-small cell lung cancer. An additional aim of this study is to explore whether a biologically rationale marker of nodal metastasis might compliment radiographic factors in risk-prediction. This work is expected to lead to more personalized and higher value lung cancer care.

Anne Hocking, PhD, Research Associate Professor in the Division of Trauma, Burn and Critical Care Surgery, will co-chair the **Wound Healing Society's** (WHS) annual meeting in 2016.

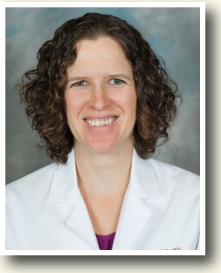
Founded in 1989, the WHS is the premier scientific organization focused on wound healing. A nonprofit organization composed of clinical and basic scientists and wound care specialists, the mission of the WHS is to improve wound healing outcomes through science, professional education, and communication. The WHS provides a forum for interaction among scientists, clinicians, and other wound care practitioners, industrial representatives, and government agencies. The WHS is open to individuals who are interested in the field of wound healing and presently comprises more than 600 active members in the United States and other countries. The Society's journal, Wound Repair and Regeneration, is the leading journal in the discipline.

Sara Javid, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of General Surgery, has been selected as the 2014 recipient of the Athena Endowed Award for Excellence in Breast Cancer Research. The Athena Award was established to recognize a junior-level researcher making the greatest contribution during the past year toward advancing research to improve the prevention, detection, diagnosis and/or treatment of breast cancer.

(continued on page 15)

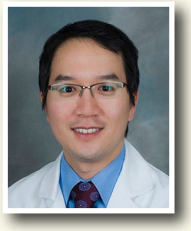
Honors and Awards

Continued from page 14



Kari Keys, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of Plastic Surgery, received funding from the UW School of Medicine **Center for Leadership and Innovation in Medical Education (CLIME)** as part of its mission to support innovative medical education scholarship for her proposal titled "Microsurgical technical skills simulation curriculum." (Co-investigators: **Jeffrey Friedrich, MD**, Associate Professor in the Division of Plastic Surgery; **Isaac Bohannon, MD**, Assistant Professor in the Division of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery; **Jason Ko, MD**, Assistant Professor in the Division of Plastic Surgery).

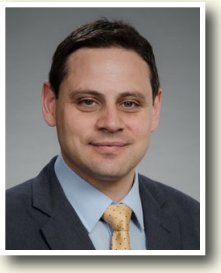
Friedrich



Ko

Research and curriculum proposals were received from 19 investigators across eight departments in the UW School of Medicine, as well as one from the UW School of Public Health. Ten faculty members from the medical school served as reviewers.

The funded projects represent a diverse range of specialties, targeted trainees, learning context, research methodologies, and impacts on local and national medical education. The investigators will come together as a community to discuss their ongoing scholarship during the monthly work-in-progress meetings.



Martin I. Montenovo, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of Transplant Surgery, was chosen for a Junior Investigator Award as one of the Top Abstracts in the Junior Faculty Category for his abstract titled *"Older Donor Age Is Associated With Worse Outcomes After Liver Transplantation"* at the 2015 State of Art Winter Symposium *"Transplant: The Ultimate Team Sport."* The abstract was reviewed and scored by the Vanguard Committee and selected for its strong scientific content and excellent presentation among 300 abstracts.

Nicholas B. Vedder, MD, Chief of Plastic Surgery; Vice Chair, Department of Surgery, was named president of **The Plastic Surgery Foundation (The PSF)**. Dr. Vedder took office in October 2014 at "Plastic Surgery The Meeting," the annual scientific meeting of The PSF and the **American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)**, in Chicago and will serve for one year.

Founded in 1948, The PSF's mission is to improve the quality of life of patients through research and development in plastic surgery. The Foundation supports research through a variety of grants and clinical trial networks. In addition to grant funding, the PSF also supports humanitarian surgical missions and international educational opportunities.

"Improving patients' lives is at the heart of everything we, and over the next year, I will work to enhance collaboration among plastic surgeons to advance the research that leads to better patient care and patient outcomes," explained Dr. Vedder. "Since plastic surgery is constantly evolving to meet the goals of our patients, it is absolutely critical that the ASPS board-certified plastic surgeons are contributing to and learning about the research that strengthens the future of our specialty. The future of Plastic Surgery is defined by innovation. By contributing to and engaging with the PSF, members are contributing to the future of their specialty."

Dr. Vedder holds positions within numerous medical and specialty societies. Prior to being named president-elect of The PSF in 2013, he served as Vice President, Academic Affairs & International Service for ASPS and The PSF. He also served as President of the American Association for Hand Surgery, Chair of the Plastic Surgery Research Council, and Chair of the American Board of Plastic Surgery. Additionally, Dr. Vedder is a Governor of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Vedder's research techniques have been recognized by the National Institute of Health through their prestigious James A. Shannon Director's Award. He is the recipient of six Golden Scalpel Awards for best reconstructive case of the year from the Washington Society of Plastic Surgeons. His skill and expertise have secured him positions on such notable lists as Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare, The Best Doctors in America, America's Top Physicians, and Seattle's Top Docs.