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*2024
Happy New Year*

Letter from the Chair

UC San Diego Health

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! As we reflect on our past accomplishments and envision the possibilities for 2024, I'd like to introduce you to our groundbreaking endeavor which we hope will facilitate "bench to bedside" translational research in an effort to further elevate patient care. Our new Center for OBGYN Research and Innovation, fondly referred to as CORI, is building the infrastructure to formally launch later this year. Volume 17 of the Fimbria also focuses on the lab of phenomenal scientist Amanda Lewis, PhD, a Professor and faculty member in the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and co-Director of the campus-wide Glycobiology Research and Training Center. Highlighting our clinical teams, we feature our Gynecological Oncology Division directed by Michael McHale, MD. This past November, our department hosted the annual Women's Reproductive Health Research (WRHR) Retreat held at various locations in our UC San Diego campus for the nation's WRHR scholars. Finally, our active Culture & Justice Quorum hosted an inspiring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reception and a successful UC San Diego Health Birth Community Symposia on postpartum health. Each year, we publish a new edition of our department CV. The updated CV for 2023 is listed [here](#).

Visit our [website](#) for more information on our divisions, clinical programs, novel research, and varied educational offerings. Please enjoy this issue, and email us with any feedback to Fimbria@ucsd.edu.



[Department CV](#) | [Website](#)
[CJQ Values Statement](#)
[Donate to OBGYNRS](#)



Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS | Samuel SC Yen Endowed Chair
*Department Chair, Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and
 Professor, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology*

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Culture & Justice: Audra Meadows, MD, MPH
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Research (Interim): Pamela Mellon, PhD
Translational Research: Marianna Alperin, MD, MS

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Urogynecology: Emily (Mimi) Lukacz, MD, MAS

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Administrative Vice Chair: Michael Morales
Editor & Director of Communications: Sunny Worth
Contact us at: Fimbria@ucsd.edu
 Department Curriculum Vitae
 Department of OBGYN & RS

FUNDING NEWS

Congrats to recent awardees on funding for impactful research and scientific discovery



Yuna Ha, PhD
Postdoctoral Fellow
Miles Wilkinson's Lab

Sponsor
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

HA23F0 Grant
A General Adjuvant for Treating CF
Patients: A MicroRNA Inhibitor Therapy

Award
11/1/2023-10/31/2025
\$150,995

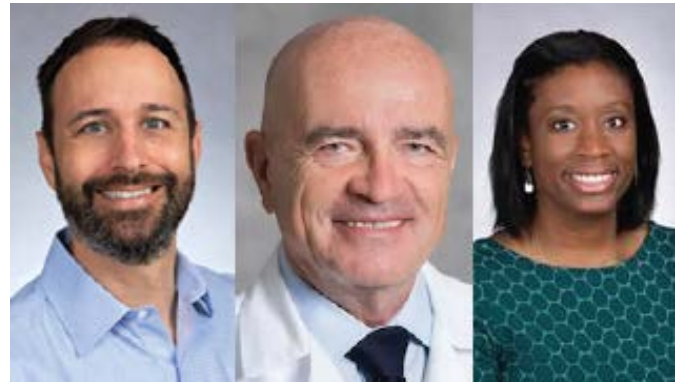


Maureen Ries, MD

Sponsor
CALMEDFORCE

Grant
University of California San Diego Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Project

Award
Fall 2024
\$200k



P.I.: Alexander 'Sasha' Kauffman, PhD

Co-I: Antoni Duleba, MD
Co-I: Tracy Harrison, MD

Sponsor
NICHD

R01 Grant
"Androgen effects on the reproductive neuroendocrine axis"

Award
12/2023-11/2028
\$3,234,221

PUBLICATIONS

Recent Publications of Outstanding Work by Department of OBGYN & RS Members

Zachary T Berman, Christine E Boone, Dora J Melber, **Jerasimos Ballas**, Rupal Parikh, **Gladys Ramos**, **Thomas Kelly**, **Michael McHale**, Andrew C Picel, Anne C Roberts

[Intraoperative Multivessel Embolization Reduces Blood Loss and Transfusion Requirements Compared to Internal Iliac Artery Balloon Placement during Cesarean Hysterectomy for Placenta Accreta Spectrum](#) | *Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology* • NOV. 2023

Dana R. Canfield, Amanda A. Allshouse, Jessica Smith, Torri D. Metz, William A. Grobman, Robert M. Silver

[Labour agency and subsequent adverse mental health outcomes: A follow-up study of the ARRIVE Trial](#) | *BJOG* • NOV. 2023

Jocelyn Keehner, Shira R Abeles, Christopher A Longhurst, Lucy E Horton, Frank E Myers, Lindsay Riggs-Rodriguez, Mohammed Ahmad, Sally Baxter, Aaron Boussina, Kalen Cantrell, Priscilla Cardenas, **Peter De Hoff**, Robert El-Kareh, Jennifer Holland, Daryn Ikeda, Kirk Kurashige, **Louise C Laurent**; SEARCH Alliance; Andrew Lucas, David Pride, Shashank Sathe, Allen R Tran, Tetyana I Vasylyeva, Gene Yeo, Rob Knight, Joel O Wertheim, Francesca J Torriani

[Integrated Genomic and Social Network Analyses of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Transmission in the Healthcare Setting](#) | *Clinical Infectious Diseases* • JAN. 2024

Jessica Jou, Shumei Kato, Hirotaka Miyashita, Kartheeswaran Thanagathurai, Sarabjot Pabla, Paul DePietro, Mary K Nesline, Jeffrey M Conroy, Eitan Rubin, **Ramez N Eskander**, Razelle Kurzrock

[Cancer-Immunity Marker RNA Expression Levels across Gynecologic Cancers: Implications for Immunotherapy](#) | *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics* • DEC. 2023

Christopher Garcia, Leandro M. Velez, Naveena Ujagar, Zena Del Mundo, Thu Nguyen, Chelsea Fox, Adam Mark, Kathleen M. Fisch, **Mark A. Lawson**, **Antoni J. Duleba**, Marcus M. Seldin, **Dequina A. Nicholas**

[Lipopolysaccharide-induced chronic inflammation increases female serum gonadotropins and shifts the pituitary transcriptomic landscape](#) | *Frontiers in Endocrinology* • JAN. 2024

Taylor S Freret, Jessica L Cohen, **Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**, Anjali J Kaimal, Scott A Lorch, Jason D Wright, Alexander Melamed, Mark A Clapp

[Regional Variation in Antenatal Late Preterm Steroid Use Following the ALPS Trial](#) | *JAMA* • JAN. 2024

Ann M Bruno, Jerome J Federspiel, Paula McGee, Luis D Pacheco, George R Saade, Samuel Parry, Monica Longo, Alan T N Tita, **Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**, Suneet P Chauhan, Brett D Einerson, Kara Rood, Dwight J Rouse, Jennifer Bailit, William A Grobman, Hyagriv N Simhan; Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health Human Development Maternal-Fetal Medicine Units Network

[Validation of Three Models for Prediction of Blood Transfusion during Cesarean Delivery Admission](#) | *American Journal of Perinatology* • JAN. 2024

Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS; Krishelle Marc-Aurele, MD; Karen Mestan, MD, MS

[Bilateral Renal Agenesis—Interpreting the RAFT Trial](#) | *JAMA* • DEC. 2023

PUBLICATIONS

Recent Publications of Outstanding Work by Department of OBGYN & RS Members

Omonigho Aisagbonhi, Tony Bui, Chanond A Nasamran, Hailee St Louis, Donald Pizzo, Morgan Meads, Megan Mulholland, Celestine Magallanes, **Leah Lamale-Smith, Louise C Laurent, Robert Morey, Marni B Jacobs, Kathleen M Fisch, Mariko Horii**

[High placental expression of FLT1, LEP, PHYHIP and IL3RA - In persons of African ancestry with severe preeclampsia](#) | *Placenta* • JAN. 2024

Robert Morey, Lara Poling, Srimeenakshi Srinivasan, Carolina Martinez-King, Adanna Anyikam, Kathy Zhang-Rutledge, Cuong To, Abbas Hakim, Marina Mochizuki, Kajal Verma, Antoinette Mason, Vy Tran, Morgan Meads, **Leah Lamale-Smith, Hilary Roeder, Mariko Horii, Gladys A Ramos, Peter DeHoff, Mana M Parast, Priyadarshini Pantham, Louise C Laurent**

[Discovery and verification of extracellular microRNA biomarkers for diagnostic and prognostic assessment of preeclampsia at triage](#) | *Science Advances* • DEC. 2023

Tanya Kumar, MacKenzie Bryant, Kalen Cantrell, Se Jin Song, Daniel McDonald, Helena M Tubb, Sawyer Farmer, **Amanda Lewis, Emily S Lukacz, Linda Brubaker, Rob Knight**

[Effects of variation in sample storage conditions and swab order on 16S vaginal microbiome analyses](#) | *BMC Health Services Research* | *Microbiology Spectrum* • JAN. 2024

Brooke M Van Loh, Alexandra M Yaw, Joseph A Breuer, Brooke Jackson, Duong Nguyen, Krystal Jang, Fabiola Ramos, Emily V Ho, Laura J Cui, Dominique L M Gillette, Lorenzo F Sempere, Michael R Gorman, Karen J Tonsfeldt, **Pamela L Mellon, Hanne M Hoffmann**

[The transcription factor VAX1 in VIP neurons of the suprachiasmatic nucleus impacts circadian rhythm generation, depressive-like behavior, and the reproductive axis in a sex-specific manner in mice](#) | *Frontiers in Endocrinology* • DEC. 2023

Veronica A Kane, Maria Andrikopoulou, Clara Bertozzi-Villa, **Joseph Mims, Kelsey Pinson, Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**

[Low-dose aspirin and racial disparities in spontaneous preterm delivery in low-risk individuals](#) | *AJOG Global Reports* • OCT. 2023

Sydney R Morrill, Sudeshna Saha, Ajit P Varki, Warren G Lewis, Sanjay Ram, Amanda L Lewis

[Gardnerella Vaginolysin Potentiates Glycan Molecular Mimicry by Neisseria gonorrhoeae](#) | *Journal of Infectious Diseases* • DEC. 2023

Kavita Agarwal, Biswa Choudhury, Lloyd S Robinson, **Sydney R Morrill, Yasmine Bouchibiti, Daisy Chilin-Fuentes, Sara B Rosenthal, Kathleen M Fisch, Jeffrey F Peipert, Carlito B Lebrilla, Jenifer E Allsworth, Amanda L Lewis, Warren G Lewis**

[Resident microbes shape the vaginal epithelial glycan landscape](#) | *Science Translational Medicine* • NOV. 2023

Nasim C Sobhani, Sophie Goemans, Antoinette Nguyen, Melissa E Chambers, Michael Richley, Lauryn C Gabby, Nancy Field, Christina S Han, **Gladys A Ramos**

[Continuous glucose monitoring in pregnancies with type 1 diabetes: small increases in time-in-range improve maternal and perinatal outcomes](#) | *AJOG* • JAN. 2024

Kim A Boggess, Arielle Valint, Jerrie S Refuerzo, Noelia Zork, Ashley N Battarbee, Kacey Eichelberger, **Gladys A Ramos, Gayle Olson, Celeste Durnwald, Mark B Landon, Kjersti M Aagaard, Kedra Wallace, Christina Scifres, Todd Rosen, Wadia Mulla, Amy Valent, Sherri Longo, Laura Young, M Alison Marquis, Sonia Thomas, Ashley Britt, Diane Berry**

[Metformin Plus Insulin for Preexisting Diabetes or Gestational Diabetes in Early Pregnancy: The MOMPOD Randomized Clinical Trial](#) | *JAMA* • DEC. 2023

Borsika A Rabin, Kelli L Cain, Lawrence O Ayers, Angel Lomeli, Arleth Escoto, Maria Linda Buroola, Melanie Aguilar, Stephenie Tinoco Calvillo, **Breanna Reyes, Linda Salgin, Robert Tukey, Louise C Laurent, Nicole A Stadnick**

[Adaptation of the brainwriting premortem technique to inform the co-creation of COVID-19 testing strategies in underserved communities in South San Diego](#) | *BMC Health Services Research* • JAN. 2024

Minhazur R Sarker, Gladys A Ramos

[Routine screening for gestational diabetes: a review](#) | *Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol. Current Opinion in Obstetrics and Gynecology* • JAN. 2024

Laura Sisk-Hackworth, Jada Brown, Lillian Sau, Andrew A. Levine, Lai Ying Ivy Tam, Aishwarya Ramesh, Reeya S. Shah, Evelyn T. Kelley-Thackray, Sophia Wang, Anita Nguyen, Scott T. Kelley & Varykina G. Thackray

[Genetic hypogonadal mouse model reveals niche-specific influence of reproductive axis and sex on intestinal microbial communities](#) | *Biology of Sex Differences* • NOV. 2023

Qiuyang Wu, Zixu Zhou, Zhangming Yan, Megan Connel, Gabriel Garzo, Analisa Yeo, Wei Zhang, **H. Irene Su, Sheng Zhong**

[A temporal extracellular transcriptome atlas of human pre-implantation development](#) | *Cell Genomics* • JAN. 2024

Sullender RT, Jacobs MB, Sandhu MS, Lacoursiere DY, Diaz Luevano C, Pickett CM, Agarwal SK

[Perception and Comfort with Endometriosis Management Among OB/GYN Residents](#) | *Dove Medical Press* • NOV. 2023

Annie Chen, Alex Handzel, Lillian Sau, Laura Cui, Scott T Kelley, **Varykina G Thackray**

[Metabolic dysregulation and gut dysbiosis linked to hyperandrogenism in female mice](#) | *Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism* • JAN. 2024

Emily H. Yang MD, Harmonie B. Strohl MDc, H. Irene Su MD, MSCE

[Fertility preservation before and after cancer treatment in children, adolescents, and young adults](#) | *Cancer* • NOV. 2023

Laura Nerb, **Emily Yang, Dominique Exume, Anna Dornisch, Beth Zhou, Teresa Helsten, Bonnie N Kaiser, Sally A D Romero, H Irene Su**

[Development, Usability Testing, and Implementation Assessment of Cancer Related Infertility Score Predictor, an Online Cancer Related Infertility Risk Counseling Tool](#) | *Journal of Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology* • DEC. 2023

NEWSBYTES

Recent News Featuring Department of OBGYN & RS

News featuring Julia Cormano, MD

[How to Choose a Maternity Hospital](#) | *US News & World Report* • NOV. 2023

News Video featuring Pratima Gupta, MD, MPH

[Vice President Harris Participates “Fight for Reproductive Freedoms” Tour Moderated Conversation](#) | *The White House Live Stream* • JAN. 2024
[What to know about birth control and blood clot risk after 2 women taking the pill died in the same month](#) | *Business Insider* • DEC. 2023

News featuring Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS

[Rate of US babies born prematurely has grown 12%, analysis says](#) | *The Guardian* • JAN. 2024

[Low-Dose Aspirin in Pregnancy Doesn’t Impact Kids’ Brain Development](#) | *Med Page Today* • JAN. 2024

[Mirvie Announces Completion of Enrollment of 10,000 Person Landmark Research Study for Pregnancy Health](#) | *Business Wire* • NOV. 2023

[Local health experts urge pregnant woman to get RSV vaccine](#) | *The UC San Diego Tribune* • NOV. 2023

[Pregnancy Is an Endurance Test. Why Not Train for It?](#) | *New York Times* • NOV. 2023

[We’ve Got You, Baby! UC San Diego Health Delivers Top OB/GYN Care to Community](#) | *UC San Diego Today* • OCT. 2023

[Tri-City to Partner with UC San Diego Health in Delivering World-Class Medical Care](#) | *UC San Diego Today* • OCT. 2023

News featuring Amanda Lewis, PhD and Warren Lewis, PhD

[Breaking Down Barriers: What Happens When the Vaginal Microbiome Attacks](#) | *UC San Diego Today* • NOV. 2023

News featuring Department of OBGYN & RS Women and Infant Service Line

[Improving Black Obstetric Outcomes in Essential Hospitals](#) | *Essential Hospitals Institute* • JAN. 2024

[Best Hospitals for Maternity Care \(Uncomplicated Pregnancy\)](#) | *U.S. News & World Report* • DEC. 2023

[UC San Diego Health Recognized as Leader in High Quality OB/GYN Care](#) | *UC San Diego Today* • *UC San Diego Newsroom* • DECEMBER 2023

News featuring Audra Meadows, MD, MPH

[Discussing risk respectfully: How to talk about preeclampsia and low-dose aspirin with patients](#) | *CMQCC* • DEC. 2023

Podcast featuring Department of OBGYN & RS

[Intraoperative Multivessel Embolization Reduces Blood Loss and Transfusion Requirements Compared to Internal Iliac Artery Balloon Placement during Caesarian Hysterectomy for Placenta Accreta](#) | *Spectrum* | *JVIR Access* • NOV. 2023

News featuring H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE

[Noninvasive Test for Embryo Quality Could Streamline Fertility Treatment](#) | *UC San Diego Today* • JAN. 2024

Media Relations Contact: [Jeanna Vazquez](#)



LABORATORY IN THE SPOTLIGHT *Featuring OBGYN & RS Groundbreaking Research Endeavors*

Amanda Lewis, PhD and her lab study how complex sugars bridge the interfaces between vaginal bacteria and the human host

Situated within the Glycobiology Research and Training Center (GRTC) of UC San Diego is the [Lewis Lab](#) led by Amanda 'Mandy' Lewis, PhD. Dr. Lewis serves as Co-Director of [GRTC](#), Director of the UC Glycosciences Consortium for Women's Health, and a Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences. GRTC embodies the advancement of research and training for the next generation of researchers in the glycosciences and biomedical sciences. Contributions from the Lewis Lab have unraveled the mysteries of the vaginal microbiome in fascinating studies and their experimental models investigate vaginal bacteria colonization, pathophysiology, and human and animal host-microbe interactions. [Dr. Lewis](#) is an influential keynote lecturer whose lab explores sexual health, women's health, and the roles played by glycans (complex carbohydrates) between the host and bacteria in health and disease particularly in the female genitourinary systems.



Amanda Lewis, PhD

*Amanda Lewis Lab,
Maternal-Fetal Medicine*

MEET THE LEWIS LAB TEAM MEMBERS



Amanda Lewis, PhD
Lewis Lab



Andrea Verhagen
Research Associate III



Christy Armstrong
Research Associate II



Marnie Aagard
Research Associate I



Hillary Zhou
Research Associate I



Dylan Mullaney
Undergraduate
Researcher



Talisa Perez
Undergraduate
Researcher



**Luis Ramirez-
Hernandez**
Research Associate I



Sydney Morrill, PhD
Postdoctoral
Researcher



**Rukmangada
Maratikyathanahalli
Srikanta, PhD**
Postdoctoral Researcher



Dani Berman
PhD Candidate

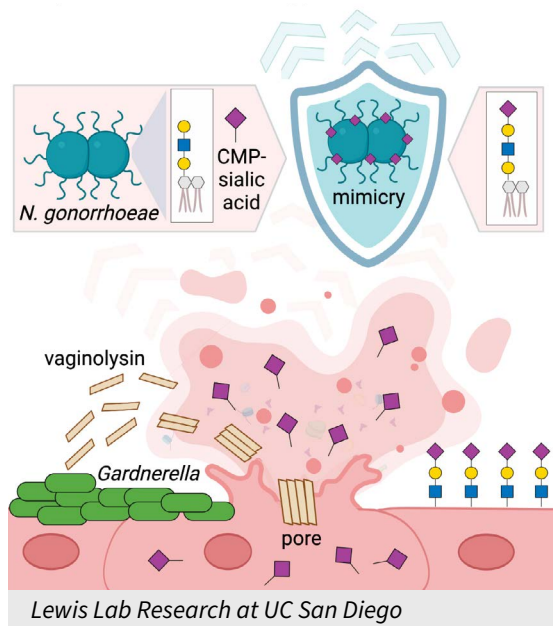


Hannah Waki
PhD Candidate

LABORATORY IN THE SPOTLIGHT Featuring OBGYN & RS Groundbreaking Research Endeavors

Toxin Produced by Common Vaginal Bacterium facilitates Gonorrhea's Carbohydrate Cloaking Mechanism

The human vagina is home to millions of bacteria, collectively referred to as the 'vaginal microbiome.' Most of the time, lactic acid-producing bacteria (called lactobacilli) are found in large numbers, contributing to an acidic pH that prevents potential pathogens from becoming too numerous. However, nearly one third of women have a condition known as bacterial vaginosis (BV), in which lactobacilli are less abundant and other types of bacteria overgrow. BV has been linked with negative health outcomes such as pregnancy complications and higher risks of sexually transmitted infections, including gonorrhea.



More than 80 million new cases of gonorrhea occur per year worldwide. The bacterium that causes gonorrhea, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, is becoming increasingly antibiotic-resistant, and there is currently no vaccine available. Gonorrhea affects both men and women, but in women it can cause especially severe problems like infertility, ectopic pregnancy, and even bloodstream infection. Newborns can also be infected. There are well established clinical associations between gonorrhea and BV. However, the intimate molecular details of gonorrhea's relationships with members of the human vaginal microbiome, or how they may contribute to health outcomes have not been extensively studied.

Research at University of California San Diego School of Medicine published in the [Journal of Infectious Diseases](#) sheds new light on this question. Authors from the laboratory of Amanda Lewis, PhD, professor in the

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at UC San Diego School of Medicine, show that one of the most conspicuous microbiome members to overgrow in BV, *Gardnerella*, may be facilitating gonorrhea's stealth escape from the immune system. At the center of this story is a type of carbohydrate molecule called sialic acid, which is found on the surfaces of all human cells and acts as a "self" signal to the immune system, communicating that these cells should not be attacked.

"It is like all of your cells are wearing the same color jersey" said Sydney Morrill, PhD, first author of the study and UC San Diego postdoctoral researcher. **"It indicates to your immune system that they are all on its team."**

Gonorrhea, however, is able to mimic this "self" signal by stealing the metabolically activated form of sialic acid (CMP-sialic acid) from host and display it prominently. This surface mimicry of host carbohydrates is known to foster gonorrhea infections by protecting the bacterium from immune attack.

Discover fascinating recent research gems: [Lewis Lab Publications](#)

- [Resident microbes shape the vaginal epithelial glycan landscape](#)
- [Gardnerella Vaginolysin Potentiates Glycan Molecular Mimicry by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*](#)
- [Toxin Produced by Common Vaginal Bacterium facilitates Gonorrhea's Carbohydrate Cloaking Mechanism](#)

Thank you, Dr. Lewis Lab for trailblazing science! Visit [Lewis Lab](#) for brilliant research updates.

CLINICAL INNOVATIONS

OBGYN & RS State-of-the-Art Programs Advance Patient Care

Advancing Gynecologic Oncology through AI, Robotics, Academic Partnership, and Refined Innovation

UC San Diego's [Gynecologic Oncology Program](#) in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences is a trailblazing nucleus of clinical and scientific advancements where personalized patient care is provided by our expert multispecialty team at the Moores Cancer Center, a National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. Pioneering Gynecologic Oncology Division Director, [Michael McHale, MD](#), and Moores Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office and Fellowship Director, [Ramez Eskander, MD](#), spearhead pivotal research discoveries with new AI tools and robotic instruments to offer improved evidence-backed therapies, mechanisms, and surgical management to treat patients suffering from cancerous and noncancerous conditions of the female reproductive system. Ongoing [clinical trials](#) in the division advance tailored treatments and a personalized care journey for patients with unique tumors.

Strength in Partnerships

With a legacy of revolutionizing the future of surgery, gynecologic oncology, and medical education, our [Gyn Oncology Fellowship Program](#) accelerates innovation and academic partnership across the University of California UC-5 (UC San Diego, UC Irvine, UCLA, UCSF, and UC Davis) Schools of Medicine. Led largely by UC San Diego and UCLA, the UC-5 holds an annual consortium (now thriving in its 3rd year) for Gyn Oncology fellows. A didactic program, fellow presentations, case discussions with faculty data distillation, collaborative research initiatives, and a half-day surgical lab lesson at the Center for the Future of Surgery round out the think tank plus training experience under Dr. McHale's and Dr. Eskander's leadership.



Michael McHale, MD
Division Director and
Gynecologic Oncology
Program Director



Ramez Eskander, MD
Director of the
Gynecologic Oncology
Fellowship Program and
Clinical Trials Director



UC-5 Consortium for Gynecologic Oncology fellows

Thank you to our Gyn Oncologists, Drs. Michael McHale, Pratibha Binder, Ramez Eskander, Steven Plaxe, and Cheryl Saenz, for breakthrough clinical expertise! Explore further into UC San Diego Health's [Gynecologic Cancer Program](#).

Dr. McHale and Dr. Eskander speak on emerging advances and treatment landscapes in Gynecologic Oncology:

MICHAEL MCHALE, MD

[Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy \(HIPIC\): Warming Up to the Possibility](#) • Gyn Onc Symposium

RAMEZ ESKANDER, MD

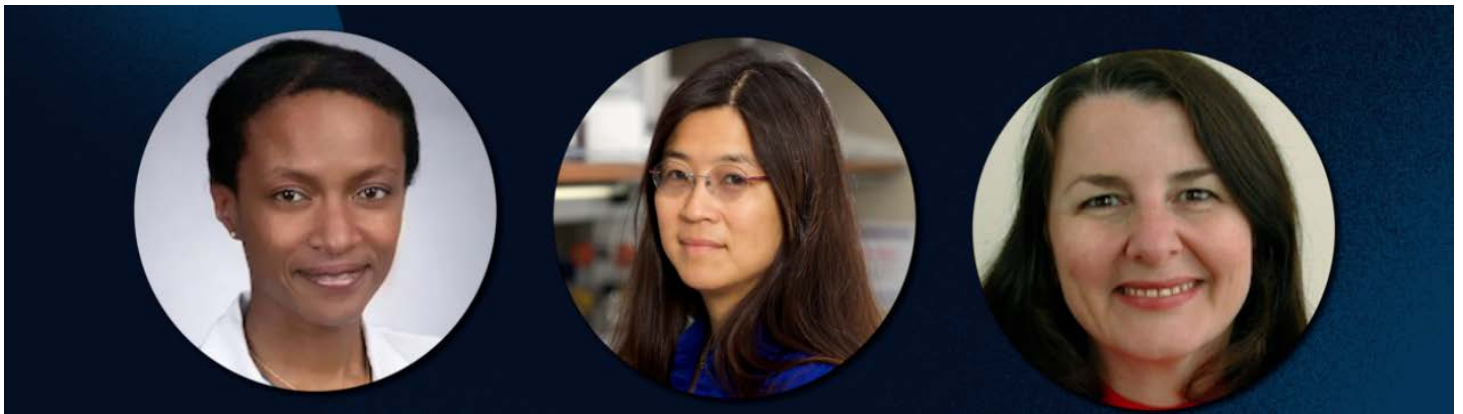
[Society of Gynecologic Oncology](#)

[How Recent "Amazing Results" Are Already Changing Endometrial Cancer Practice](#) • OBR Oncology

NIH RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT*OBGYN & RS Academic Collaboration Advances Science in Women's Health***2023 Women's Reproductive Health Research Retreat**

The [Women's Reproductive Health Research \(WRHR\)](#) Career Development Program, co-sponsored by NICHD's Gynecologic Health and Disease Branch and the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health, has an annual retreat for obstetrician-gynecologist scholars and junior investigators in reproductive health research. This prestigious program increases research capacity and clinical expertise of physician-scientists in obstetrics and gynecology subspecialties by providing scholars with funding to pursue further training and complete research projects, while providing opportunities for mentorship by senior investigators.

The 2023 WRHR Retreat was held at the University of California, San Diego and hosted by Drs. Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS, Louise Laurent, MD, PhD, and Pamela Mellon, PhD from the Department of OBGYN & RS. Birch Aquarium, Sanford Consortium, Roth Auditorium, and Great Hall saw engaging presentations by nationwide scholars including UCSD representation by Ukachi Emeruwa, MD, MPH (WRHR), Nicole Teal (WRHR), and Lindsey Burnett, MD, PhD (RSDP), with an impactful keynote speech by John Carethers, MD, UCSD Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences. Grantwriting pearls, research workshop pods, and a scholar panel with Drs. H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE, Sarah Averbach, MD, MAS, Heidi Cook-Andersen, MD, PhD, and Marianna Alperin, MD, MS from OBGYN & RS rounded out the successful retreat.



UCSD WRHR Retreat hosted by Drs. Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS, Louise Laurent, MD, PhD, and Pamela Mellon, PhD

NIH RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

OBGYN & RS Academic Collaboration Advances Science in Women's Health



WRHR Retreat Scholars and Faculty at The Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine (SCRM) at UC San Diego.



WRHR Retreat Reception at the Birch Aquarium in La Jolla. Photography by Lizeth Gallegos and Elizabeth Santos.

RESEARCH INNOVATION

Department of OBGYN & RS Pioneers Research Partnership Initiative

*Coming Soon***Center* for OB/GYN Research Innovation**

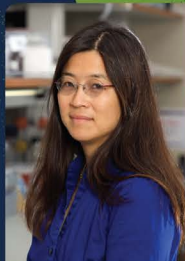
Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to embark on a new journey into scientific advancement and exploration with the launch of groundbreaking initiative, our Center* for OB/GYN Research Innovation.

This collaborative adventure is spearheaded by Co-Directors Louise Laurent, MD, PhD and H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE, Associate Director Varykina Thackray, PhD, and Administrative Director Nastaran Afari, MA, and will shape our bright future of pioneering research partnership at UCSD.

The UCSD Center* for Obstetrics and Gynecology Research Innovation (CORI) aims to be the nexus of collaborative and clinical initiatives related to women's, gender, and reproductive health. CORI encompasses six hubs focused on:

- Clinical Trials & Translational Research
- Science & Technology
- Academic Career Development
- Epidemiology, Biostatistics, & Bioinformatics
- Program & Proposal Development
- Community Partnership

Meet our CORI Leadership Team

Louise Laurent, MD, PhD
Co-Director



H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE
Co-Director



Varykina Thackray, PhD
Associate Director



Nastaran Afari, MA
Administrative Director

Our **Vision** is to drive transformative discoveries for the betterment of women's lives.

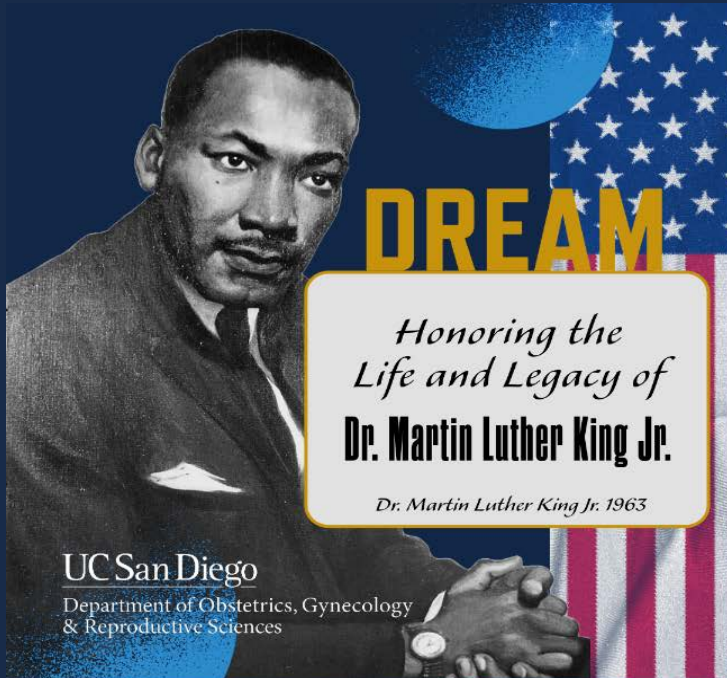
Our **Mission** is to deploy team science and community partnerships to bridge longstanding gaps in women's health-care and advance the understanding of female biology.

**official status in progress*



CULTURE & JUSTICE

OBGYN & RS Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) Spearheads Inclusive Excellence



OBGYN & RS Residents and department faculty attend the MLK Reception with inspiring remarks by Audra Meadows, MD, MPH, Vice Chair of Culture and Justice, David Schlaepfer, PhD, and Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS, Chair

Celebrating the National Day of Service in Honor of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In service to Dr. Martin Luther's King's life, legacy, and remarkable accomplishments, the Department of OBGYN & RS hosted its annual MLK reception on January 10 th during Triton Changemaker Week at UC San Diego's East Campus Office Building. Our Department [Culture and Justice Quorum](#) hosts this annual event to observe and commemorate Dr. King as an influential civil rights leader who inspired progress towards social justice, honorably received the Noble Peace Prize, raised awareness about institutional and systemic racism, and changed the world by teaching about American values of peace, freedom, and justice. Annually at the MLK reception, Dr. Meadows, Vice Chair for Culture and Justice, reaffirms the Department [Values Statement](#) in honor of Dr. King's legacy.

CULTURE & JUSTICE

OBGYN & RS Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) Spearheads Inclusive Excellence



UCSD Birth Community Engagement & Symposia attendees at the Tubman Chavez Community Center

UCSD Birth Community Engagement & Symposia

The Department of OBGYN & RS Culture and Justice Quorum, Audra Meadows, MD, MPH, Culture & Justice Vice Chair, and Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS, Department Chair, hosted a quarterly [Birth Community Engagement & Symposia](#): "Beyond Birth: Postpartum Wellness" for birth supporters and colleagues in the community on January 27, 2024 at the new Tubman Chavez Community Center | Live Well San Diego. UCSD teams presented their work to build community partnership for perinatal health and health equity and answered questions. Attendees were doulas, midwives, lactation consultants, peripartum and postpartum organizations, and specialty program providers. UC San Diego Health [Diabetes and Pregnancy Program](#), [University of California Health Milk Bank](#), [UCSD Lactation Consultant and Perinatal Program](#), [Global Communities | Healthy Start](#), [Mommy's Milk](#), and others exhibited booths to share their role in providing supportive reproductive health care.

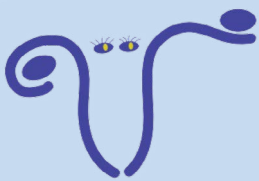
CULTURE & JUSTICE

OBGYN & RS Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) Spearheads Inclusive Excellence

Lightning rounds included:

- Symposia opening/Q&A/closing moderation with Audra Meadows, MD, MPH, Vice Chair
- Chair welcome and department overview with Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS covering "Maternal Mortality: Two Major Problems" and the Reproductive Mental Health Program.
- "Preparing for and Caring for the Newborn" with UCSD board-certified pediatrician Michelle Leff, MD.
- "The Milk" UC San Diego Health Milk Bank - San Diego County Breastfeeding Coalition and "Cherry Blossom Program for Bereaved Families" with Alison Wolf, CPNP, IBCLC.
- "OB Refugee/Asylee Care Navigation Program" and "Modernizing Access & Reducing Barriers to Breast Pump Rental" with Eliza Garay, Program Manager and OB/GYN Surgical and Support Services Manager.
- "Pelvic Health After Birth Clinic (PHAB)" with Lindsey Burnett, MD, PhD, Program Director and Urogynecologist, and Omar Mesina, MD, Resident Physician, (who eloquently presented in Spanish).
- "The Fourth Trimester Program: A New Paradigm for Postpartum and Newborn Care" with Ukachi Emeruwa, MD, MPH, Perinatologist.

At Your Cervix



At Your Cervix 2023-2024 Resident leads:

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Lead: Milli Desai, MD

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Lead: Rafa Ifthikhar, MD

Advocacy Lead: Kellie Schueler, MD

Community Engagement and Service Lead: Hayley Schultz, MD (Chief Resident)

Community Outreach Effort: Las Colinas Women's Health Education Series

Located in Santee around 20 miles east of Jacobs Medical Center, the [Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility \(LCDRF\)](#) serves as the primary point of intake for incarcerated females in San Diego County. Classes are offered to incarcerated people at the facility (examples are computer classes, education on addiction) with the hopes of improving reintegration to the community, and incarcerated individuals asked for a class on women's health. A partnership was made and faculty member Dr. Gupta and residents Dr. Ifthikhar and Dr. Desai led the first class for the Women's Health Education Series. Incarcerated individuals could choose to attend, and the first class had 10 attendees. The first session focused on pelvic anatomy and the menstrual cycle, and was well received with robust discussion and questions. Plans are to host a monthly class and focus on topics such as STIs, contraception, abnormal bleeding, pregnancy, etc. Las Colinas administration also provides some classes on pregnancy and will share information with us on what resources and healthcare services are available to incarcerated individuals while they are at LCDRF.



From left: Dr. Milli Desai, Dr. Rafa Ifthikhar, and Dr. Pratima Gupta at the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility

CULTURE & JUSTICE

OBGYN & RS Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) Spearheads Inclusive Excellence

A Heartfelt Thank You – Holiday Donations

UC San Diego School of Medicine Residents collected 10 bags of donated clothing and items which were delivered directly to border camps for refugees and asylum seekers waiting entrance into the US. This generosity has helped with basic needs and brought warmth to families. Thank you to all who donated.

Obstetric Refugee/Asylee Care Navigation Program

UC San Diego Health, Dr. Audra Meadows, Dr. Mai Hoang, and Maria (Eliza) Garay, Program Manager, worked with OBGYN & RS residents to combat the rise of maternal mortality and morbidity among Black birthing people by creating the Obstetric Refugee/Asylee Care Navigation Program. This program, in combination with a focus group to understand how to best deliver equitable care and eliminate barriers, targets hypertensive disorders of pregnancy for Black birthing patients and provides:

- Language-concordant care and translation services for patients from Haiti and the African continent
- Inpatient and outpatient resources, including blood pressure cuffs for outpatient monitoring
- Transportation
- Provider and nursing staff education
- Hospital discharge follow-up care

These critical contributions have been recognized by the Essential Hospitals Institute in their new report: [Improving Black Obstetrics in Essential Hospitals »](#)

Please visit our [CJQ website](#) to discover more about our Culture and Justice Quorum.

NEW OBGYN & RS INTERN

Welcome to the UC San Diego School of Medicine!



Rachel Pacyna, MD, OBGYN & RS Resident

"Hello from the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at UCSD! As a new resident in our program, I am thrilled to be part of this vibrant community.

I am originally from the Chicago area and pursued my undergraduate studies in Neuroscience and Spanish at Michigan State University. Before medical school at the University of Chicago, I spent two years at the National Institutes of Health, researching neuroimaging for presurgical planning in patients with epilepsy. I fell in love with the field of Obstetrics & Gynecology during medical school, leading me to start my residency training at Indiana University.

Currently, I am proud to call UCSD home, where I am immersed in a rich environment of learning and collaboration. I have a keen interest in continuing research as a resident and integrating it into my career. I'm exploring career paths, including Complex Family Planning, Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery, or as an academic generalist.

On a personal note, I enjoy playing tennis and exploring the beautiful Southern California coastline. The transition to UC San Diego has been an enriching experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the department's legacy of excellence in women's health."

– Rachel Pacyna, MD, PGY-1

NEW STAFF HIRES

Welcome to the Department of OBGYN & RS. We're delighted to have you join the team!



WELCOME NEW RESEARCHERS and ADMINISTRATORS

UC San Diego research labs stand out among the world's finest and we're grateful for our talented new Triton team members. A warm welcome to newly arriving lab members:



**Gopalakrishnan
Chandrasekaran, PhD**
*Postdoctoral Scholar, Dr.
Cook-Andersen Lab*



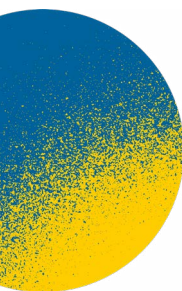
**Rukmangada
Maratikyathanahalli
Srikanta, PhD**
*Postdoctoral Scholar, Dr.
Amanda Lewis Lab*



Hector Chavez
*Research Data and
Laboratory Analyst*



Joseline Sanchez
*Clinical Research
Coordinator & Community
Outreach Lead*



RECENT EVENTS*Department of OBGYN & RS Event Happenings, Member Gatherings, and Community Engagement***Faculty Excellence in Mentoring Award**

Congratulations Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, MPH on receiving the 2023 Faculty Excellence in Mentoring Award at the UC San Diego School of Medicine Mentoring Excellence Celebration in November of 2023. From far left: Drs. Ries, Tarsa, Kingston, LaCoursiere, Burnett, and Giamfi-Bannerman.

**American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists**

Several OBGYN & RS faculty and residents recently attended the AAGL Global Congress in Nashville, TN to learn more about exciting innovations in the field of minimally invasive surgery. Chief resident Dr. Renee Sullender delivered 2 podium presentations and had an additional 2 abstracts at the conference with the help of her research mentors, including Drs. Agarwal, Varon, Jacobs, Lacoursiere, and Pickett. Special thanks to Dr. Parker for helping to elevate MIGS at UCSD.

**The Department of OBGYN & RS Holiday Party**

From left: Michael Morales, Cynthia Giamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS, Marianna Alperin, MD, MS, and Gina Frugoni, MD

**The Department of OBGYN & RS Wellness Event**

Fall/Winter Department of OBGYN & RS Wellness event hosted by Jerry Ballas, MD at Pinot's Palette at Liberty Station on December 6th. The residents selected the picture embodying San Diego to inspire these artistic masterpieces!

RECENT EVENTS

Department of OBGYN & RS Event Happenings, Member Gatherings, and Community Engagement



UCSD Birth Community Engagement & Symposia

Department of OBGYN & RS UCSD Birth Community Engagement & Symposia: "Beyond Birth: Postpartum Wellness" hosted by Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS, Department Chair, and Audra Meadows, MD, MPH, Vice Chair of Culture & Justice on January 27, 2024 at the Tubman Chavez Conference Center.



The White House Reproductive Freedoms Tour

Pratima Gupta, MD, MPH gives introductory comments at the Vice President Kamala Harris's White House Fight For Reproductive Freedoms Tour held in San Jose at the Mexican Heritage Plaza on January 29, 2024.



OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

Department of OBGYN & RS is hiring new faculty committed to academic and clinical excellence

CLINICAL POSITIONS

UC San Diego
School of Medicine

**Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences**

Director, Nurse-Midwifery Service

The Director of the Nurse-Midwife Service in the Department of OB/GYN and Reproductive Sciences, provides leadership over the Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) that work in the Comprehensive Women's Health Program, as well as performing direct patient care.

The Director will work with Department Faculty and Business Office as well as Health System leadership. The Director is expected to develop and foster improvements of Nurse Midwifery care throughout the Health System. This individual will be the leader of the Nurse-Midwifery service with the responsibility for quality of patient care, education and customer satisfaction. These duties include:

- Ongoing development, revision and implementation of CNM Best Practices. This includes review and revision of CNM practice guidelines as necessary.
- Staff recruitment, onboarding, orientation, training, professional development and performance evaluations.
- Ensuring staffing of the outpatient and inpatient services, managing absences / time off requests as well as managing human resource issues.
- Assuring appropriate CNM and ancillary staffing of community clinics that Health System has contracts for CNM services.
- Overseeing quality of care, including reviewing and improving quality metrics as identified by Health System and responding to patient complaints.
- Provide CNM full scope (inpatient and outpatient) patient care.
- Work collegially in a collaborative care model consulting physicians and specialists.
- Work within a family-centered and culturally sensitive mother-baby friendly philosophy of care.
- Participate in clinical education of medical students, residents, and other healthcare learners.
- Function as a liaison with Health System personnel including case management, financial counselors and social workers.
- Participate in community outreach activities and other duties as assigned.
- Promoting clinical investigation and supporting scholarly activities. A highly successful candidate will have an interest in research, quality initiatives and publishing research related to midwifery.

The Director will spend the majority of time (50% or more) achieving organizational objectives through the coordinated achievements of subordinate staff. Establishes departmental goals and objectives, functions with autonomy. Manages the accountability and stewardship of human, financial, and often physical resources in compliance with departmental and organizational goals and objectives. Ensures subordinate supervisors and professionals adhere to defined internal controls. Manages systems and procedures to protect departmental assets.

For questions, please reach out to Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman @ cgyamfibannerman@health.ucsd.edu.

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences**

Faculty Positions in Obstetrics & Gynecology

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences (<https://obgyn.ucsd.edu/index.html>) at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is committed to academic excellence and diversity within the faculty, staff and student body and is seeking board certified physicians in Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM), Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI), Gynecologic Oncology (GynOne), Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS), Complex Family Planning (FP), Hospitalist, and General Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN).

The successful candidates will be responsible for providing high quality training and teaching, clinical care of patients and/or research.

Candidates must have a MD or equivalent, PhD or MD/PhD in areas of OB/GYN & Reproductive Medicine or health related fields.

Candidates with a MD or equivalent must be Board eligible or Board certified in areas of OB/GYN & Reproductive Sciences. Candidates with a MD or equivalent must also be eligible for a California medical license or equivalent certification permit as determined by the Medical Board of California.

Apply Link: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03836>

Appointment will be at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor level and will be based on the candidate's background and experience.

A link to the full descriptions of each series is provided for your review:

HS Clinical Professor - see: http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-278.pdf

Clinical X Professor - see: http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-275.pdf

In-Residence Professor - see: http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-270.pdf

Adjunct Professor - see: http://ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-280.pdf

Appointments may require candidates to be self-funded.

As a member of the Health Sciences Compensation Plan, the appointee should be aware that there are limitations on outside professional activities, and clinical moonlighting is expressly prohibited. Additional information can be found here: https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-671.pdf

The posted UC Salary scales set the minimum pay at the appointment as determined by appointment type and if applicable, rank and/or step. The base pay range for this position is \$112,500-\$411,500. Salary is negotiated annually. Additional compensation may be available if the position includes membership in the Health Sciences Compensation Plan. UC Salary information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/compensation/2023-24-academic-salary-scales.html>.

UC San Diego
School of Medicine

**Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences**

Generalist OBGYN Physician—North County

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is seeking a board certified or board eligible Generalist OBGYN physician with clinical and leadership skills to join a new generalist OBGYN practice in North San Diego County. The ideal candidate would practice full scope obstetrics and gynecology, inclusive of Labor and Delivery and Gynecologic Surgery, and would have the vision and initiative necessary to contribute to the expansion of UCSD Health to provide care to the community of northern San Diego. Physicians recruited would provide inpatient and outpatient care mostly at the new UCSD campus in North County.

This position is primarily clinical and estimated to be 100% effort. Candidates should have a commitment to excellence in clinical care, patient safety, patient satisfaction, with a desire to maintain their practice in within an academic setting. Candidates must be board certified or board eligible in General Obstetrics & Gynecology and must have or obtain an active license to practice medicine in California.

The ideal candidate for this position is someone with:

- The ability to develop and expand the clinical mission to neighboring communities
- The desire to provide care to an underserved population
- The desire to have to practice in a community setting under the umbrella of an academic medical center

Candidates are required to show a demonstrated commitment to diversity and equity by submitting a Diversity Statement of past contributions and/or future plans of excellence in this area as part of their application for an academic appointment.

Interested Applicants must submit a CV, contact information for 3 references, and a separate statement summarizing past or potential contributions to diversity.

Please submit your application to Michael Morales via email m6morales@health.ucsd.edu

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status.

For questions regarding the position, please contact Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman (cgyamfibannerman@health.ucsd.edu).

UC San Diego
School of Medicine

**Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences**

Assistant, Associate or Full Clinical Professor in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is seeking to expand its Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) Division with the recruitment of a fellowship-trained, board certified REI OBGYN physician with outstanding clinical and leadership experience and skills. The current division members include nationally recognized leaders of the subspecialty dedicated to training the next generation of leaders in REI. The division engages in basic science, translational and clinical research. Division members provide inpatient and outpatient services including Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) services.

This position, estimated to be 100% effort, may be in the HS clinical or Clinical X series at the Assistant, Associate or full Professor rank. Candidates should have a commitment to excellence in clinical care, patient safety, patient satisfaction, education, research and participate actively in these missions of the division. Candidates must be board certified in General Obstetrics & Gynecology and board certified in REI or board eligible, and must have or obtain an active license to practice medicine in California.

Ideal candidates should have clinical experience in the management of the full spectrum of REI. Interest in specific areas within REI, such as ART, is welcome. Applicants will be expected to practice clinical REI, teach students, train residents and fellows, mentor resident and fellow research projects and participate in administrative functions of the division, department and University.

The ideal candidate for this position is someone with:

- Demonstrated clinical, scholarship, and teaching skills with commitment to the tripartite mission
- Desire to explore innovative & new methods of care in REI including ART, and training of the next generation of REI specialists
- The ability to develop and expand the clinical mission to neighboring communities
- Goals to contribute to the education of medical students, OBGYN and REI fellows

Candidates are required to show a demonstrated commitment to diversity and equity by submitting a Diversity Statement of past contributions and/or future plans of excellence in this area as part of their application for an academic appointment.

OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

Department of OBGYN & RS is hiring new faculty committed to academic and clinical excellence

CLINICAL POSITIONS

UC San Diego
School of Medicine

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences

Associate or Full Clinical Professor in Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is seeking to expand its Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) Division with the recruitment of a fellowship-trained, board certified FPMRS OBGYN physician with outstanding clinical and leadership experience and skills. The current division members include nationally recognized leaders of the subspecialty dedicated to training the next generation of leaders in FPMRS. The division shares residency/fellowship training and research activities with colleagues at Kaiser Permanente, San Diego. The division engages in basic science research (which includes pelvic floor physiology), translational research (Urobiome) and clinical research with membership in NIH sponsored networks (e.g. Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (PLUS) and Pelvic Floor Disorders Network (PFND)). Division members collaborate in a multi-disciplinary environment with FPMRS board certified/eligible urologists, who share in the clinical, educational and research missions providing outpatient services at three locations in San Diego County and surgical care at the Jacobs Medical Center in La Jolla. The division plans to expand these services to satellite clinics in outlying San Diego County regions.

This position, estimated to be 100% effort, may be in the HS clinical or Clinical X series at the Associate Professor or full Professor rank. Candidates should have a commitment to excellence in clinical care, patient safety, patient satisfaction, education, research and participate actively in these missions of the division. Candidates must have a MD or MD/PhD, be board certified in general Obstetrics & Gynecology and board certified in FPMRS, eligible for appointment at the Associate Professor/Professor level and must have or obtain an active license to practice medicine in California.

The candidate should demonstrate an eagerness to collaboratively engage as the co-clinical medical director in our multidisciplinary outpatient Women's Pelvic Medicine Center and have the ability to direct the FPMRS fellowship program jointly administered by UC San Diego and Kaiser Permanente. Ideal candidates should have clinical experience in the management of the full spectrum of pelvic floor disorders including vaginal, abdominal and minimally invasive surgical approaches. Applicants will be expected to practice clinical FPMRS, teach students, train residents and fellows, mentor resident and fellow research projects, mentor junior faculty and participate in administrative functions of the division, department and University. Spanish fluency preferred.

The ideal candidate for this position is someone with:

- At least 4 years post fellowship experience
- Demonstrated scholarship and leadership skills
- Desire to collaborate with a well-established and highly functioning multidisciplinary, multispecialty team of gynecology and urology trained FPMRS specialist
- Interested in developing and refining leadership skills from a team of nationally known faculty and clinical leaders
- Desire to explore innovative & new methods of care in FPMRS, and training of the next generation of FPMRS specialists
- The ability to develop and expand the clinical mission to neighboring communities
- Goals to contribute to the education of medical students, OBGYN and urology residents, and FPMRS fellows

Candidates are required to show a demonstrated commitment to diversity and equity by submitting a Diversity Statement of past contributions and/or future plans of excellence in this area as part of their application for an academic appointment.

Interested Applicants must submit a CV, contact information of 3 references, and a separate statement summarizing past or potential contributions to diversity.

Please apply using this job application portal: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03335>

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status.

For questions regarding the position, please contact Emily Lukacz, MD, Division Director, Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery: elukacz@health.ucsd.edu

RESEARCH POSITIONS

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences

Vice Chair of Research in OB/GYN & Reproductive Sciences

Associate or Full Professor

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences (<https://obgyn.ucsd.edu/index.html>) at the University of California San Diego is committed to academic excellence and diversity within the faculty, staff and student body and is seeking a Vice Chair of Research.

We are currently ranked 3rd among OB/GYN Departments in NIH funding and have active research programs in neuroendocrine control of reproduction, circadian rhythm, puberty, placental biology, exRNA biology, PCOS, stress, spermatogenesis, early embryo development, gynecologic cancer, pelvic floor muscle physiology, contraception, pregnancy and the reproductive microbiome.

The Department is interested in candidates who have a commitment to research excellence, demonstrated leadership and who are interested in building an equitable and diverse scholarly environment.

The successful candidate will bring an established research program and benefit from the highly stimulating and collaborative environment within the department. The Vice Chair of Research will also report directly to the Department Chair and will collaborate with the Vice Chair of Translational Research and other department members to optimize and oversee the research components of our department. The Vice Chair of Research will also advise the Department Chair on research matters and will meet with the Chair on a regular basis. The Vice Chair of Research role is estimated to be 10% effort.

The selected candidate will be responsible for teaching, research and service.

Responsibilities will also include committee participation on the following departmental committees:

- Department Executive Committee
- Department Vice Chairs Committee
- Department Research Advisory Committee
- Chair the Department Space Committee
- Department Search Committees for FTE Faculty

Candidates must have a PhD, MD/PhD, MD or equivalent, or terminal degree in areas of Reproductive Sciences or other health related fields.

Candidates must also have a current research program in a discipline relevant to Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences with a track record of obtaining substantial extramural funding and high productivity with regards to peer-reviewed publications.

Apply Link: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03641>

The appropriate appointment at Associate or Full Professor level will be based on the candidate's background and experience.

A link to the full description of the series is provided for your review:

Ladder Rank Professor - see: http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-220.pdf

As a member of the Health Sciences Compensation Plan, the appointee should be aware that there are limitations on outside professional activities, and clinical moonlighting is expressly prohibited. Additional information can be found here: https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-671.pdf

The posted UC Salary scales set the minimum pay at the appointment as determined by appointment type and if applicable, rank and/or step. The base pay range for this position is \$300,000 - \$500,000. Salary is negotiated annually. Additional compensation may be available if the position includes membership in the Health Sciences Compensation Plan. UC Salary information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/compensation/2022-23-academic-salary-scales.html>.

As a condition of employment, you will be required to comply with the University of California SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Policy. All Covered Individuals under the policy must provide proof of Full Vaccination or, if applicable, submit a request for Exception (based on Medical Exemption, Disability, and/or Religious Objection) or Deferral (based on pregnancy) no later than the applicable deadline. For new University of California employees, the applicable deadline is eight weeks after their first date of employment.

The University of California prohibits [smoking and tobacco](#) use at all University controlled properties.

The UC San Diego Annual Security & Fire Safety Report is available online at: <https://www.police.ucsd.edu/docs/annualclery.pdf>. This report provides crime and fire statistics, as well as institutional policy statement & procedures. Contact the UC San Diego Police Department at (858) 534-4361 if you want to obtain paper copies of this report.

The University of California, San Diego is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer advancing inclusive excellence. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, covered veteran status, or other protected categories covered by the UC nondiscrimination policy.

OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

Department of OBGYN & RS is hiring new faculty committed to academic and clinical excellence

RESEARCH POSITIONS

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences

Biostatistics Research Faculty in Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences (<https://obgyn.ucsd.edu>) at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is committed to academic excellence and diversity within the faculty, staff, student body, and is recruiting Biostatisticians to join the department's research faculty to support our research programs across the 7 divisions of the department.

In partnership with the Director of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Core, this position will develop a sustainable departmental analytics program. In addition, the biostatistics research faculty will serve as a resource for other faculty and trainees in study design, power calculations, statistical analysis, grant and abstract, and manuscript preparation.

The successful candidates will be expected to develop an independent program of methodological research in their area of interest, while cultivating collaborations with researchers in the department. The selected candidates will be responsible for designing, executing and analyzing data from clinical trials, implementation science projects, and epidemiologic investigations. Duties include statistical design of studies, development of new statistical methodology, statistical analysis of results, mentorship/teaching of trainees, and preparation of statistical and scientific reports and publications.

Candidates must have a PhD in biostatistics or other relevant areas.

Candidates must have a current research program with a track record of obtaining extramural funding and productivity with regard to peer-reviewed publications.

Candidates must also have a track record of teaching and mentorship activities.

Candidates with a current research program in a discipline relevant to Reproductive Health is preferred.

Apply Link: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03743>

Appointment will be at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor level and will be based on the candidate's background and experience.

A link to the full description of the Adjunct series is provided for your review:

Adjunct Professor – see: <http://ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-280.pdf>

As a member of the Health Sciences Compensation Plan, the appointee should be aware that there are limitations on outside professional activities, and clinical moonlighting is expressly prohibited. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-671.pdf>

The posted UC Salary scales set the minimum pay at the appointment as determined by appointment type and if applicable, rank and/or step. The base pay range for this position is \$112,500–\$297,200. Salary is negotiated annually. Additional compensation may be available if the position includes membership in the Health Sciences Compensation Plan. UC Salary information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/compensation/2022-23-academic-salary-scales.html>.

Appointments may require candidates to be self-funded.

As a University employee, you will be required to comply with all applicable University policies and/or collective bargaining agreements, as may be amended from time to time. Federal, state, or local government directives may impose additional requirements.

The University of California prohibits [smoking and tobacco](#) use at all University controlled properties.

The UC San Diego Annual Security & Fire Safety Report is available online at: <https://www.police.ucsd.edu/docs/annualclery.pdf>. This report provides crime and fire statistics, as well as institutional policy statement & procedures. Contact the UC San Diego Police Department at (858) 534-4361 if you want to obtain paper copies of this report.

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UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences

Research Faculty Positions for the Center of Perinatal Discovery

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences (<https://obgyn.ucsd.edu/index.html>) at the University of California San Diego is committed to academic excellence and diversity within the faculty, staff and student body and is seeking applicants for tenure-track OB/GYN research faculty positions.

The Department is comprised of 69 faculty members (53 clinical faculty (including 8 physician scientists) and 16 PhD researchers). We are currently ranked 3rd among OB/GYN Departments in NIH funding and have active research programs in placental biology, exRNA biology, early embryo development, PCOS, stress, neuroendocrine control of reproduction, spermatogenesis, ovarian cancer, pelvic floor muscle physiology, contraception, and the reproductive microbiome. The selected candidates will benefit from the highly stimulating and collaborative environment within the department.

The successful candidates will be a member of the UCSD Center for Perinatal Discovery. The overarching mission of the center is to advance pregnancy and newborn health through collaborative placental research. The Department is interested in candidates with a commitment to research excellence and participation in teaching, research, service, and in building an equitable and diverse scholarly environment.

The selected candidates will be responsible for training and teaching, basic or translational research, and/or the clinical care of patients.

Candidates must have a MD or equivalent, or PhD in areas of Reproductive Sciences or other health related fields. Candidates with a MD must be Board certified or Board eligible in OB/GYN or related fields. Candidates with a MD or equivalent must also be eligible for a California medical license or equivalent certification/permit as determined by the Medical Board of California.

Assistant Professor (tenure-track): Candidates must have a current research program in a discipline relevant to Women's Health with a track record of obtaining extramural funding and productivity with regard to peer-reviewed publications.

Associate or Full Professor (tenured): Candidates must have a current research program in a discipline relevant to Women's Health with a track record of obtaining substantial extramural funding and high productivity with regard to peer-reviewed publications.

Candidates with a research background in reproductive immunology/infectious disease, endometrial biology, or biomedical informatics are preferred.

The appointment at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor level will be based on the candidate's background and experience. Series will include 50% Ladder Rank / 50% In-Residence with secured extramural funding or 100% Ladder Rank.

A link to full descriptions of each series is provided for your review:

Ladder Rank Professor - see: <http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-220.pdf>

In-Residence Professor - see: <http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-270.pdf>

Associate or Full Professor (tenured): Applications must be submitted through the University of California San Diego's Academic Personnel RECRUIT system at: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/apply/JPF03672>

As a member of the Health Sciences Compensation Plan, the appointee should be aware that there are limitations on outside professional activities, and clinical moonlighting is expressly prohibited. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-671.pdf>

The posted UC Salary scales set the minimum pay at the appointment as determined by appointment type and if applicable, rank and/or step. The base pay range for this position is \$106,900 - \$284,100. Salary is negotiated annually. Additional compensation may be available if the position includes membership in the Health Sciences Compensation Plan. UC Salary information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/compensation/2022-23-academic-salary-scales.html>

As a University employee, you will be required to comply with all applicable University policies and/or collective bargaining agreements, as may be amended from time to time. Federal, state, or local government directives may impose additional requirements.

The University of California prohibits [smoking and tobacco](#) use at all University controlled properties.

The UC San Diego Annual Security & Fire Safety Report is available online at: <https://www.police.ucsd.edu/docs/annualclery.pdf>. This report provides crime and fire statistics, as well as institutional policy statement & procedures. Contact the UC San Diego Police Department at (858) 534-4361 if you want to obtain paper copies of this report.

The University of California, San Diego is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer advancing inclusive excellence. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, covered veteran status, or other protected categories covered by the UC nondiscrimination policy.

OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

Department of OBGYN & RS is hiring new faculty committed to academic and clinical excellence

RESEARCH POSITIONS



**Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
& Reproductive Sciences**

Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences Research Faculty Positions

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences (<https://obgyn.ucsd.edu/index.html>) at the University of California San Diego is committed to academic excellence and diversity within the faculty, staff and student body and is seeking applicants for tenure-track basic science faculty positions.

We are currently ranked 3rd among OB/GYN Departments in NIH funding and have active research programs in neuroendocrine control of reproduction, circadian rhythms, puberty, placental biology, exRNA biology, PCOS, stress, spermatogenesis, early embryo development, gynecologic cancer, pelvic floor muscle physiology, infertility, contraception, and the reproductive microbiome.

The Department is interested in candidates who have a commitment to research excellence, and participation in teaching, research, service, and in building an equitable and diverse scholarly environment. The successful candidates will benefit from the highly stimulating and collaborative environment within the department.

The selected candidates will be responsible for teaching, research and service.

Candidates must have a PhD, MD/PhD, MD or equivalent, or terminal degree in areas of Reproductive Sciences or other health related fields.

Assistant Professor (tenure-track): Candidates must also have a current research program in a discipline relevant to Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences with a track record of obtaining extramural funding and productivity with regards to peer-reviewed publications.

Associate or Full Professor (tenured): Candidates must also have a current research program in a discipline relevant to Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences with a track record of obtaining substantial extramural funding and high productivity with regards to peer-reviewed publications.

The appointment at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor level will be based on the candidate's background and experience. Series will include 50% Ladder Rank / 50% In-Residence with secured extramural funding or 100% Ladder Rank.

A link to full descriptions of each series is provided for your review:

Ladder Rank Professor - see: <http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-220.pdf>

In-Residence Professor - see: <http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-270.pdf>

Assistant Professor (tenure-track): Applications must be submitted through the University of California San Diego's Academic Personnel RECRUIT system at: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/apply/JPF03669>

Associate or Full Professor (tenured): Applications must be submitted through the University of California San Diego's Academic Personnel RECRUIT system at: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/apply/JPF03670>

As a member of the Health Sciences Compensation Plan, the appointee should be aware that there are limitations on outside professional activities, and clinical moonlighting is expressly prohibited. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/apm/apm-671.pdf>

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