



*Hello Fall!*

### In this Issue

Letter from the Chair .....	2
Funding News .....	3
Publications & Newsbytes .....	4
Laboratory in the Spotlight .....	6
Clinical Innovations .....	8
Culture & Justice-At Your Cervix ...	10
New Fellow Matches & Incoming Bios	13
New Faculty Welcome .....	14
New Staff Hires.....	15
Recent Events .....	17
Open Faculty Positions .....	23

# Letter from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

**Fall has come quickly, and along with that, worsening global unrest and continued violence against women and children.** I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to all those who have lost family members or friends in the ongoing situation in the Middle East. We denounce acts of hate and stand with UC San Diego, the University of California Board of Regents, and UC President Michael V. Drake, MD in condemning the violence in this region. Today, we remain resolute in our stance against all forms of injustice, as previously expressed in our [anti-racism statement](#).

I'd also like to introduce Volume 16 of the Fimbria, where we congratulate our incoming fellows and welcome our new first-year fellows. Each issue introduces one of our research labs and clinical innovations. This edition focuses on the lab of trailblazer scientist and former Fimbria editor Dwayne Stupack, PhD, a Professor and faculty member in the division of Gynecologic Oncology. We also feature the novel Fertility Preservation Program directed by Dr. H. Irene Su. Our Culture & Justice Quorum renewed annual ambassador commitments, launched a successful birth community engagement and symposia series in October in partnership with Celebrating Midwifery Week, and will be introducing the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative ([CMQCC](#)) Hospital Perinatal Equity Action Guide, a set of equity tools to improve maternal outcomes at CA hospitals.

Visit our [website](#) for more information on our divisions, clinical programs, leading edge research, and academic affairs. Please enjoy this issue, and email us with any feedback to [Fimbria@ucsd.edu](mailto:Fimbria@ucsd.edu).

Thank you!

**Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS** | Samuel SC Yen Endowed Chair

*Department Chair, Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and Professor, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology*



*Dr. Gyamfi-Bannerman, Chair,  
OBGYN & RS*

UC San Diego Health



[Department CV](#) | [Website](#)

## VICE CHAIRS

**Clinical Affairs:** Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, MPH  
**Culture & Justice:** Audra Meadows, MD, MPH  
**Education:** Gladys (Sandy) Ramos, MD  
**Research (Interim):** Pamela Mellon, PhD  
**Translational Research:** Louise Laurent, MD, PhD

## DIVISION DIRECTORS

**Complex Family Planning:** Sheila Mody, MD, MPH  
**Gynecologic Oncology:** Michael McHale, MD  
**Hospitalist:** Gina Frugoni, MD  
**Maternal-Fetal Medicine:** Thomas Kelly, MD  
**Obstetrics & Gynecology:** Jessica Kingston, MD  
**Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility:** Antoni Duleba, MD  
**Urogynecology:** Emily (Mimi) Lukacz, MD, MAS

## BUSINESS OFFICE

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

# FUNDING NEWS

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



**Lindsey Burnett, MD, PhD**

**Sponsor**  
Boston Scientific/Medtronic

**Grant**  
Southern CA Regional  
Urogynecology Fellows  
Hands-On Lab

**Award**  
11/18/2023  
\$10k



**Ukachi Emeruwa, MD**

**Sponsor**  
Robert A. Winn Foundation

**Grant**  
The Robert A. Winn Career  
Development Award (Winn  
CDA)

**Award**  
10/01/2023 – 9/30/2025  
\$240k



**Kathleen Fisch, PhD**

**Sponsor**  
NIH/NICHD

**R21 Grant**  
Genomic Dissection of  
Placental Lesions in  
Preeclampsia

**Award**  
8/1/2023 – 7/31/2025  
\$426,639

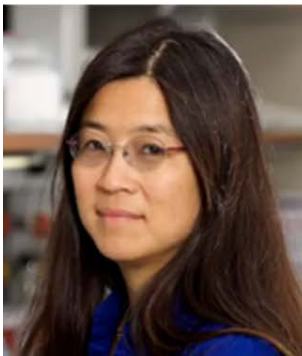


**David Klein, MD**

**Sponsor**  
UCSD/AOCS

**Grant**  
Exploring the association of  
introversiion measures and  
clinical clerkship evaluations

**Award**  
10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024  
\$10k

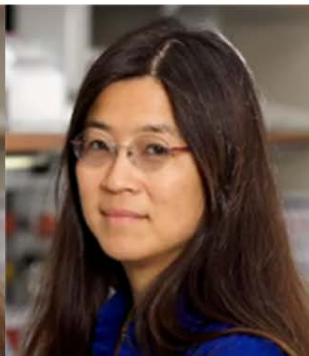


**Louise Laurent, MD, PhD**

**Sponsor**  
Bio-Rad Labs

**Grant**  
Clinical research for Bio-  
Rad trial

**Award**  
7/27/2023 – 7/26/2033  
\$188,312/year



**Louise Laurent, MD, PhD**

**Sponsor**  
NIH/NIDA

**U54 Grant**  
Omics Data Generation  
Center (ODGC) for the Acute  
to Chronic Pain Signatures  
(A2CPS) Program

**Award**  
8/1/2023 – 7/31/2026  
\$1,266,485



**Dwayne Stupack, PhD**

**Sponsor**  
21st Century Med

**Grant**  
Whole ovary vitrification for  
fertility preservation

**Award**  
6/1/2023 – 8/31/2033  
\$54,337

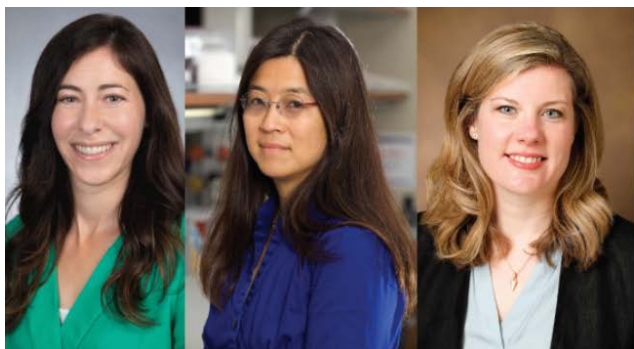


**H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE**  
**PI: Elena Martinez, PhD, MPH**

**Sponsor**  
NIH

**U54 Grant**  
Cancer Research and  
Education to Advance Health  
Equity (CREATE)

**Award**  
9/2023 – 8/2025  
\$100k/year



**Marni Jacobs, PhD, Louise Laurent, MD, PhD, and Kathryn Lindley, MD**

**Sponsor:** NIH/NHGRI/NCI/NIEHS

**U01 Grant**  
Multi-Omics for Human Health and Disease, Disease Study  
Site (DSS) New Research Consortium / "Multi-Omics for  
Maternal Health after Preeclampsia" (Vanderbilt subaward)

**Award**  
9/12/2023 - 5/31/2028  
\$51M (\$3,982,114 for UCSD)

# PUBLICATIONS

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

**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 • OCT. 2023

Adina R Kern-Goldberger, Whitney Booker, Alexander Friedman,  
**Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**

[Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Cesarean Morbidity](#) | [American Journal of Perinatology](#) | American Journal of Perinatology • OCT. 2023

Erin E McCoy, Ronit Katz, Diana K N Loudon, Emiko Oshima, Amy Murtha, **Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**, Nanette Santoro, Elizabeth A Howell, Lisa Halvorson, Susan D Reed, Barbara A Goff

[Scholarly activity following National Institutes of Health Women's Reproductive Health Research K12 training-a cohort study](#) | American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology • OCT. 2023

Alayne Markland, Tamara Bavendam, Charles Cain, C Neill EPPERSON, Colleen M Fitzgerald, **D Yvette LaCoursiere**, David A Shoham, Ariana L Smith, Siobhan Sutcliffe, Kyle Rudser; Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms Research Consortium

[Occupational groups and lower urinary tract symptoms: A cross-sectional analysis of women in the Boston Area Community Health Study](#) | Neurology and Urodynamics • OCT. 2023

Nicole A Stadnick, **Louise C Laurent**, Kelli L Cain, Marva Seifert, Maria Linda Buroła, Linda Salgin, Paul Watson, William Oswald, Fatima A Munoz, Sharon F Velasquez, Justin D Smith, Jingjing Zou, Borsika A Rabin

[Community-engaged optimization of COVID-19 rapid evaluation and testing experiences: roll-out implementation optimization trial](#) | Implementation Science • OCT. 2023

**Meadows, Audra R.** MD, MPH; Byfield, Renée MS, FNP; Bingham, Debra DrPH, RN; Diop, Hafsatou MD, MPH

[Strategies to Promote Maternal Health Equity The Role of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives](#) | Obstetrics & Gynecology • OCT. 2023

Anna Kheyfets, Kali Vitek, Claire Conklin, Christianna Tu, Elysia Larson, Chloe Zera, Ronald Iverson, Emily Reiff, Andrew Healy, Julianne Luring, Corina Schoen, Karen Manganaro, Mary Pomerleau, Bonnell Glass, Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha, Hafsatou Diop,  
**Audra R Meadows**

[Development of a Maternal Equity Safety Bundle to Eliminate Racial Inequities in Massachusetts](#) | Obstetrics & Gynecology • OCT. 2023

Declercq, Eugene R. PhD; Cabral, Howard J. PhD, MPH; Liu, Chia-Ling ScD, MPH; Amutah-Onukagha, Ndidiamaka PhD; **Meadows, Audra MD, MPH**; Cui, Xiaohui PhD; Diop, Hafsatou MD, MPH

[Prior Hospitalization, Severe Maternal Morbidity, and Pregnancy-Associated Deaths in Massachusetts From 2002 to 2019](#) | Obstetrics & Gynecology • OCT. 2023

**Renee T Sullender, Pratibha S Binder**

[Ovarian Mucinous Adenocarcinoma and False Negative Frozen Pathology: A Case Report and Review of the Literature](#) | JCRIOG • OCT. 2023

**Sullender, R.T., Varon, S., & Pickett, C.M.**

[Laparoscopic Cervical Myomectomy Techniques Video](#) | Surgery U • OCT. 2023

Robert Morey, Tony Bui, **Kathleen M Fisch**, Mariko Horii

[Modeling placental development and disease using human pluripotent stem cells](#) | Placenta • SEPT. 2023

Kathleen A Sluka, Tor D Wager, Stephani P Sutherland, Patricia A Labosky, Tessa Balach, Emine O Bayman, Giovanni Berardi, Chad M Brummett, John Burns, Asokumar Buvanendran, Brian Caffo, Vince D Calhoun, Daniel Clauw, Andrew Chang, Christopher S Coffey, Dana L Dailey, Dixie Ecklund, Oliver Fiehn, **Kathleen M Fisch**, Laura A Frey Law, Richard E Harris, Steven E Harte, Timothy D Howard, Joshua Jacobs, Jon M Jacobs, Kristen Jepsen, Nicolas Johnston, Carl D Langefeld, **Louise C Laurent**, Rebecca Lenzi, Martin A Lindquist, Anna Lokshin, Ari Kahn, Robert J McCarthy, Michael Olivier, Linda Porter, Wei-Jun Qian, Cheryse A Sankar, John Satterlee, Adam C Swensen, Carol G T Vance, Jennifer Waljee, Laura D Wandner, David A Williams, Richard L Wixson, Xiaohong Joe Zhou; A2CPS Consortium

[Predicting chronic postsurgical pain: current evidence and a novel program to develop predictive biomarker signatures](#) | Pain • SEPT. 2023

Edward Wang, **Louise C Laurent**, Drew A Hall, Yu-Hwa Lo

[Sample preconcentration through airjet-induced liquid phase enrichment](#) | Lab on a Chip • SEPT. 2023

Michael Sveiven, Andrew Gassman, Joshua Rosenberg, Matthew Chan, Jay Boniface, Anthony J O'Donoghue, **Louise C Laurent**, Drew A Hall

[A dual-binding magnetic immunoassay to predict spontaneous preterm birth](#) | Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology • SEPT. 2023

Farnaz Minooei, Nicole M Gilbert, Longyun Zhang, Mary Sarah Ne-Camp, Mohamed Y Mahmoud, Anthony J Kyser, Kevin M Tyo, Walter H Watson, Ruta Patwardhan, **Warren G Lewis**, Hermann B Frieboes, **Amanda L Lewis**, Jill M Steinbach-Rankins

[Rapid-dissolving electrospun nanofibers for intra-vaginal antibiotic or probiotic delivery](#) | European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics • SEPT. 2023

Robert W Holloway, Premal Thaker, Alberto A Mendivil, Sarfraz Ahmad, Ahmed N Al-Niaimi, James Barter, Tiffany Beck, Setsuko K Chambers, Robert L Coleman, Sarah M Crafton, Erin Crane, **Eskander Ramez**, Sharad Ghamande, Whitney Graybill, Thomas Herzog, Megan Dr Indermaur, Vee-na S John, Lisa Landrum, Peter C Lim, Joseph A Lucci, **Michael McHale**, Bradley J Monk, Kathleen Nadine Moore, Robert Morris, David M O'Malley, Thomas J Reid, Debra Richardson, Peter G Rose, Jennifer M Scalici, Dan-Arin Silasi, Krishnansu Tewari, Edward W Wang

[A phase III, multicenter, randomized study of olvimulogene nanivacirepvec followed by platinum-doublet chemotherapy and bevacizumab compared with platinum-doublet chemotherapy and bevacizumab in women with platinum-resistant/refractory ovarian cancer](#) | Int J of Gynecol Cancer • SEPT. 2023

# PUBLICATIONS

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

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

[Gardnerella vaginalis potentiates glycan molecular mimicry by Neisseria gonorrhoeae](#) | JID • SEPT. 2023

**Christine M Zachek, Olive Osuoji, Isabella Qendro, Omonigho Aisagbonhi, Richard Wolf, Brian Hinds, Scott A Harvey**

[Complex cutaneous leishmaniasis in pregnancy](#) | American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology • SEPT. 2023

Yokabed Ermias, **Sarah H Averbach**, Arnab K Dey, Ewenat Gebrehanna, Kelsey Holt

[The association between quality of contraceptive counseling and selection of contraceptive method post-counseling among women in Ethiopia](#) | An International Reproductive Health Journal | Contraception • AUG. 2023

Maged M Costantine, Rebecca G Clifton, Trisha M Boekhoudt, Kirsten Lawrence, **Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**, Katherine L Wisner, William Grobman, Steve N Caritis, Hyagriv N Simhan, Mary F Hebert, Monica Longo, George R Saade; Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Maternal-Fetal Medicine Units Network and the Obstetric-Fetal Pharmacology Research Centers Network

[Long-term neurodevelopmental follow-up of children exposed to pravastatin in utero](#) | AJOG • AUG. 2023

**Ha, Diana MD; Ghebrendrias, Selam MD; Meadows, Audra MD; LaCoursiere, Daphne Yvette MD; Lewis, Amanda PhD; Lawson, Mark MD; Morales, Michael; Gyamfi-Bannerman, Cynthia MD; Brubaker, Linda MD**

[The Culture and Justice Quorum at University of California, San Diego: A Departmental Approach to Dismantling Structural Racism](#) | Academic Medicine • AUG. 2023

Sanjay Jain, Liming Pei, Jeffrey M Spraggins, Michael Angelo, James P Carson, Nils Gehlenborg, Fiona Ginty, Joana P Gonçalves, James S Hagood, John W Hickey, Neil L Kelleher, **Louise C Laurent**, Shin Lin, Yiing Lin, Huiping Liu, Alexandra Naba, Ernesto S Nakayasu, Wei-Jun Qian, Andrea Radtke, Paul Robson, Brent R Stockwell, Raf Van de Plas, Ioannis S Vlachos, Mowei Zhou; HuB-MAP Consortium; Katy Börner, Michael P Snyder

[Advances and prospects for the Human BioMolecular Atlas Program \(HuBMAP\)](#) | Nature Cell Biology • AUG.2023

Douglas Luchristt, Benjamin Carper, Sunil Balgobin, Isuzu Meyer, Deborah Myers, Donna Mazloomdoost, Marie Gantz, Uduak Andy, Halina M Zyczynski, **Emily S Lukacz**; Pelvic Floor Disorders Network

[Characteristics associated with subjective and objective measures of treatment success in women undergoing percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation vs sham for accidental bowel leakage](#) | International Urogynecology Journal • AUG. 2023

# NEWSBYTES

## Recent News Featuring OBGYN & RS Members and Climb from #26 to #15 in the Nation!



**News featuring** Pratibha Binder, MD; Ramez Eskander, MD; Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, MPH; Christine B. Miller, MD; Mariana Ramos-Rivera, MD; Maryam Tarsa, MD

[More than 100 UC San Diego Health physicians in 50 specialties were named “Top Docs” in the annual San Diego Magazine “Physicians of Exceptional Excellence” survey](#) | UC San Diego Health • OCT. 2023

**Podcast featuring** Kathryn Macaulay, MD

[The unique health concerns of women](#) | KPBS • OCT. 2023

**News featuring** Louise Laurent, MD, PhD

[NIH awards \\$50.3 million for “multi-omics” research on human health and disease](#) | National Human Genome Research Institute • SEPT. 2023

**News featuring** Audra Meadows, MD, MPH

[Worsening US Maternal Death Rates](#) | AMA Ed Hub JN • SEPT. 2023

**News featuring** Marianna Alperin, MD, MS

[New Insights on Pelvic Floor Damage after Vaginal Birth, and New Directions for Treatment](#) | UC San Diego Today • AUG. 2023

**Podcast featuring** Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS

[High-Risk Pregnancy? Bed Rest May Not Be the Answer](#) | Radio Health Journal • AUG. 2023

**News featuring** Department of OBGYN & RS

[UC San Diego Health Ranks No. 1 in San Diego, Makes National Honor Roll](#) | UC San Diego Today • JULY 2023

Media Relations Contact: [Jeanna Vazquez](#)

## LABORATORY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Dwayne Stupack, PhD and his UC San Diego Stellar Lab Team at Moores Cancer Center



*Dwayne Stupack, PhD of UC San Diego Stupack Lab*

The Stupack lab in the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at the Moores Cancer Center at UCSD is focused on gynecologic cancers, but has a particular interest in ovarian cancer. Ovarian cancer afflicts one in seventy women, and kills about 1% of all women. Big steps are needed to better understand it, treat it, and even detect it earlier. The [Stupack lab](#) works on two types of ovarian cancer; high grade serous ovarian cancer (HGSOC), a carcinoma which accounts for most of the ovarian cancer deaths in the US each year, and adult type granulosa tumors, which are rarer and quite different, arising from mesenchymal cells resident within the follicles of the ovary.

#### High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer (HGSOC) is Among the Deadliest Aggressive Cancers for Women

For HGSOC, the biggest problems are not the initial response, but rather, the rate of recurrence of the disease and the acquisition of chemoresistance. In fact, four out of five women will initially respond to chemotherapy and debulking, but among these, almost half will recur within a year. Unlike other cancers, which tend to have known point mutations driving them, HGSOC is strongly influenced by gains and losses of genes – and even portions of chromosomes. Take chromosome 8 for example. More than 7 in ten women gain at least one extra copy of the long tip of chromosome 8. A famous oncogene lives in the neighborhood (Myc), but there is no relationship between the number of copies of the gene and how much Myc is in a cell.

It might reflect a circadian or other cyclic pattern of expression, yet other genes in the neighborhood certainly were expressed proportionately to the gene copy number. One of these, focal adhesion kinase (FAK), attracted Stupack's attention as it was the focal point of work going on in [David Schlaepfer's lab](#) next door. Stupack summarized: **“David had studied FAK for years, and in fact I had helped with a lot of the studies. But I was surprised to see not only how commonly FAK is amplified, but how commonly a supporting cast of other focal adhesion genes was coamplified. After phospholipid metabolism, it's the most upregulated pathway across HGSOC.”**

This seems not to be a coincidence. Over the last few years, the team has shown that FAK is the messenger at the cross-roads, acting as a biosensor for environmental stimuli and then supporting signals that span chemoresistance, stemness, and immune evasion. This kind of research takes a team.

**“We absolutely love to collaborate with other labs,”** notes Stupack **“it was great to integrate programs with David and take advantage of some of the pioneering footwork he had done. I doubt anyone knows FAK better than he does.”**

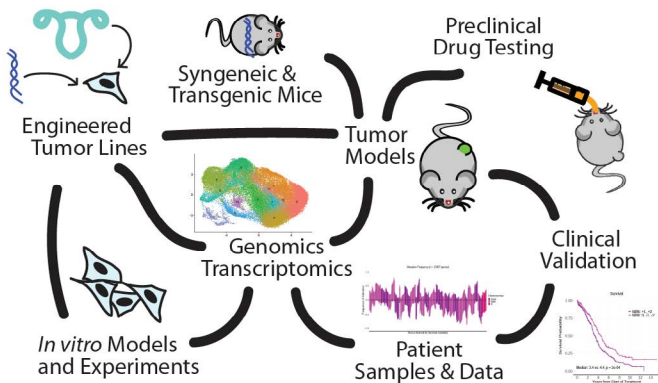
# LABORATORY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The two received NIH funding to expand their work. The work was expanded this year with a [Curebound](#) Discovery award, which is focused on targeting FAK to reprogram tumors, and render them more compliant for immunotherapy. That work was undertaken together with Dr. Steve Schoenberger from the La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology, and also involves tumor vaccines and a relatively new immunotherapy called checkpoint inhibitors.

## Investigating the Enigma of the Adult-type Granulosa Cell Tumor of the Ovary (AGCT), a Progressive Rare Ovarian Cancer Subtype Affecting Menopausal and Post-Menopausal Women

Stupack is also working on understanding Granulosa cell tumors, together with [Shunichi Shimasaki](#) from the REI division. While surgery tends to cure most women with AGCT, for those who recur (often many years to a decade later), there are no effective options to treat the progressive disease. AGCT is puzzling, because most women with disease have the same genetic variation in the same site in the same protein – a gene called FOXL2. Mutations in this gene typically cause an infertility syndrome, but a single variation has been associated with cancer.

### Research in the Stupack Lab



**Subject Keywords:** FAK, FOXL2, Kinase Inhibitor, Transcriptomics, Immuno-Oncology, CrispR

**“We don’t know if it’s causal. The work we are doing here is pioneering, since, at least when we set out, there are really no good mouse models of disease. There is only a single human cell line we could grow, and it’s very difficult for anyone to work with.”**



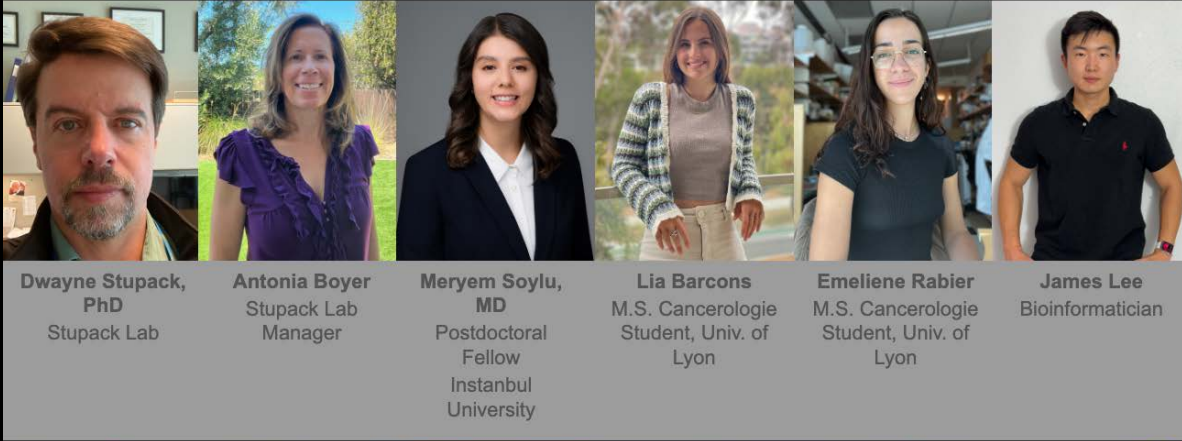
*Drs. Dwayne Stupack (Co-Investigator), Rebecca Rakow-Penner, and Michael McHale celebrate receiving the Cure Prize for bold innovation in cancer research this year.*

That’s where Postdoctoral Fellow [Meryem Soylu, MD](#) came in. Building on work from a prior post doc (Carla Sampaio, PhD) Meryem has generated two immortalized mouse cell lines from granulosa cells. Both have key variations found in AGCT. She is currently working on establishing a new transgenic model, and it has not been easy. **“The first model was untenable and that cost us a year. I don’t wish that on anyone,”** she noted **“but our current results are pretty encouraging.”** Now Meryem is racing to get all the work done and assemble her manuscript. She’s in the match for Ob/Gyn residency, and may be leaving the lab next year.

Other current members of the [Stupack lab](#) include Antonia Boyer, who manages the lab, and Lia Barcons and Emeliene Rabier, two Masters students from the University of Lyon in France. The Stupack lab has served as a practicum lab for the last decade or so, and generally hosts two students from Lyon each year. **“It is intense. There is a lot of expectation from me for them to be motivated, educated and independent. But, on the other hand, I’m pretty sure they’ve enjoyed UC San Diego and, more broadly - Southern California, as well.”** The lab is rounded out by James Lee, who provides in-house bioinformatics support.

The lab has also had projects funded by companies, including those interested in peripheral neuropathy and fertility preservation, two complications associated with chemotherapy in ovarian, and other, cancers. Stupack sees this as a growing and important area. As better treatments come online for cancer, cures will increase, and even patients that do not get cured may live with disease for long periods of time. **“Cures or survival – these are first. It may be a bit early, but perhaps we can begin to think beyond this.”**

MEET THE STUPACK LAB TEAM MEMBERS



Dr. Stupack and Dr. Schlaepfer lab teams joined together Fall 2023 to form the official UC San Diego Gynecologic Oncology Lab

Stupack Lab outing – iceskating!

New Lab Members Joining Soon: Nicole Fu (late Fall) and Corinne Miller, PhD (2024)

Thank you, Dr. Stupack and Lab Team for your remarkable research! Visit the [Stupack Lab](#) to learn more.

## CLINICAL INNOVATIONS

### Medically Indicated Fertility Preservation Program led by Dr. H. Irene Su preserves the reproductive futures of children, adolescents and young adults



**For young people facing medical treatments that can impair their future reproductive health, adolescent dreams of starting a family someday meet UC San Diego Health’s multi-pronged approach to preserving their reproductive futures.**

**H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE | Fertility Preservation Program Director**

Leading the Fertility Preservation Program is reproductive endocrinologist and epidemiologist [H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE](#). Dr. Su also serves as Program Director for the Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility Fellowship and Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the UC San Diego School of Medicine. She is the Co-Director for the new Center for OB/GYN Research Innovation. Herein, Dr. Su shares the patient care model to reach patients throughout SoCal and power research efforts to inform cutting edge care.





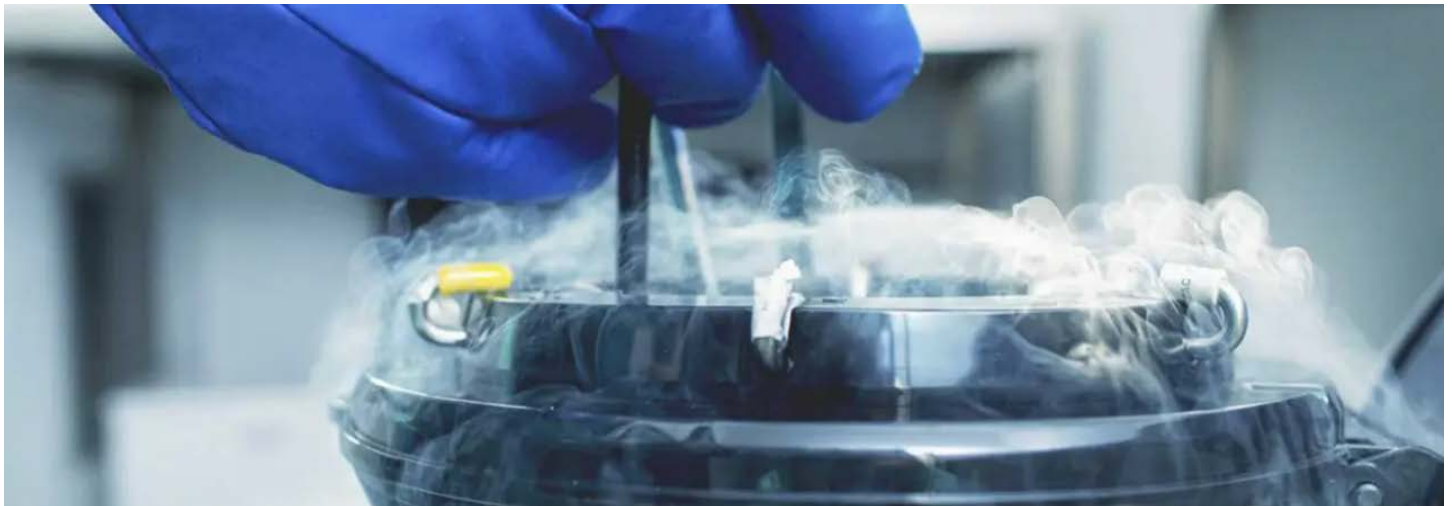
### Family Building Premise

From cancer treatments to transplants for sickle cell disease to gender affirming hormone and surgical therapy, innovations in improving health can also pose risks to reproductive futures. The premise of UC San Diego's Fertility Preservation Program is to talk about reproductive risks with children, adolescents, young adults facing therapies that may impair their fertility and reproductive health, deliver state of the art fertility preservation treatments, and support long-term reproductive health care needs. UCSD's Fertility Preservation Program is committed to delivering high quality care informed by bench to bedside to policy innovations.

### Hub and Spokes Model

Like a bicycle wheel with a central hub, the Fertility Preservation Program encompasses a multi-disciplinary UC San Diego team of female and male reproductive specialists, andrology and IVF laboratory experts, clinical trainees, nurses and allied professionals, and social work financial navigators at the [Cancer Resource Center of the Desert](#). This hub receives referrals from spokes throughout Southern California. The team takes care of patients from UCSD Health's oncology, rheumatology, gender affirming care programs, among others. Our reach is as far south as Imperial County, as far east as the Inland Empire, and as far north as Los Angeles.

When patients and their families receive care at the Fertility Preservation Program, they are counseled about their reproductive risks, supported to undergo fertility preservation treatments if needed, and followed longitudinally for their reproductive health. Patients can undergo fertility preservation treatments at UC San Diego Health, because this is the only program in Southern California offering the full range of standard of care treatments inclusive of oocyte, sperm, embryo, and ovarian tissue [freezing](#) in high quality [laboratories](#). Collaboration with referral and surgical teams supports fertility conserving surgeries, ovarian suppression during chemotherapy, and limiting radiation to reproductive organs. Telehealth care or local fertility program care support patients who need to travel farther.



### The Power of Research

Patient experiences are central to informing basic science, translational, health services and public policy research efforts at UC San Diego Health. Examples of basic science innovations include studying spermatogonial stem cell development in Dr. Miles Wilkinson's laboratory, whole ovary cryopreservation in Dr. Alison Ting's laboratory. To improve clinical care delivery, [Dr. Su](#) and Dr. Sally Romero are conducting multi-site clinical trials on how fertility preservation care can be delivered to every patient who needs it. Partnered with implementation science researchers, Dr. Su and [Dr. Sara McMenamin](#) are learning how laws on fertility preservation health insurance coverage are implemented in a complex health system, in order to deploy interventions to improve public policies' limited reach. The significance and rigor of these research efforts have been recognized by NIH, Robert Wood Johnson, American Cancer Society, and California Breast Cancer Research Program funding. Importantly, research efforts include training the next generation of physicians, physician scientists and scientists to answer questions that are important to preserve the reproductive future of young patients.

Visit our [Female Fertility](#) / [Male Fertility](#) sites to connect with fertility specialists and explore care innovations.

# Culture & Justice

**OBGYN & RS Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) Ambassadors Ally to illuminate diversity as a centerpiece of our inclusive culture**



*Carmen Linares is an inspiring Culture & Justice Quorum ambassador and UC San Diego cultural artist, indigenous muralist, and campus spiritual blessing leader. Her artwork shows the female Mexicatil deities: "They describe the feminine power of the Spring equinox celebrating the arts, agriculture, maternity, fertility, and patrons of pregnancy and childbirth."*

## **Carmen Linares, Culture and Justice Quorum ambassador at UC San Diego, inspires art and culture chartering DEI engagement on campus and in the community**

At the core of art is expression which takes on myriad forms. Meet Carmen Linares who shared at the OBYN & RS Culture and Justice Quorum how her artistry passion strengthens communities and forges connections as an empowering mechanism for cultural exchange and appreciation. Carmen is a diversity role model and pioneer on campus (since 2008) and in the community. By day, Carmen is instrumental to primary operations and admin support for public relations and internal communications but by night, she has built a sensational legacy of artwork painting cultural murals and leading spiritual blessings at UC San Diego. Carmen has conducted several blessings at UCSD – most notable was the 50th Founders celebration, the Legacy mural at Marshall College, and in 1990, the blessing of the Price Center. She has donated art to several staff and student organizations to help with graduation and other needs for under-represented students or as a gesture of friendship. Connect with Carmen if interested in exploring her awe-inspiring work, campus diversity celebrations, and local culture and visit her [CJQ Ambassador Artistry Spotlight](#).

# Culture & Justice

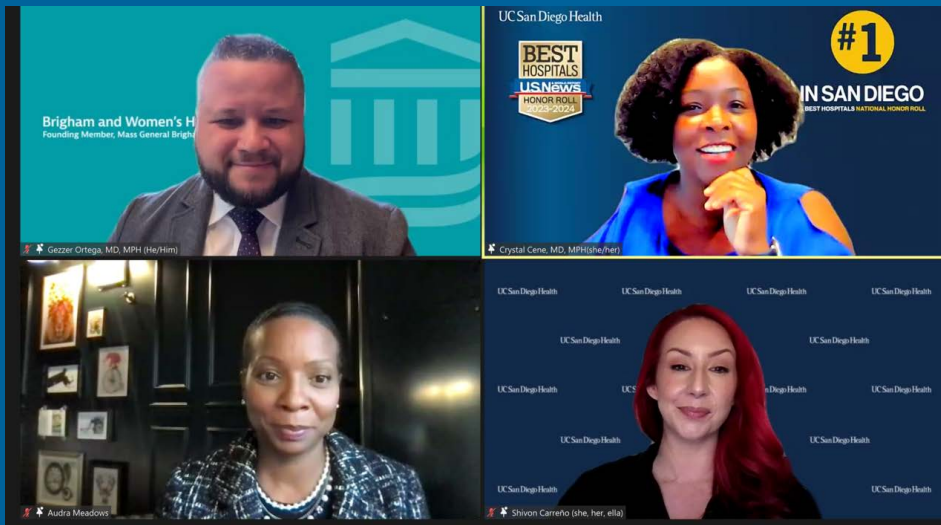
## OBGYN & RS Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) Ambassadors Ally to illuminate diversity as a centerpiece of our inclusive culture



Ann Fulcher, CLE, CD(DONA) Program Manager, UCSD Hearts & Hands Volunteer Doula Program

### Hearts and Hands Doula Program Featured by CMQCC

Ann Fulcher, CLE, CD(DONA), Program Manager for the UCSD Hearts & Hands Volunteer Doula Program, represented this UC San Diego program at the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) “Let’s Talk Perinatal Equity” webinar series. She presented Hearts & Hands for the “Tools to Get Started” webinar for California hospitals in August 2023. CMQCC uses quality improvement to end preventable maternal morbidity and mortality and improve maternal outcomes for birthing people. To accomplish this goal, CMQCC and partners launched “The Hospital Action Guide for Respectful and Equity-Centered Obstetric Care.” This new equity-centric tool for providers and obstetric teams at California hospitals seeks to bring about positive change in patient care and organizational culture. This resource intends to aid understanding of drivers of maternal inequities including racism and bias and opportunities to create a culture of equity across hospitals. Dr. Audra Meadows, Vice Chair for Culture and Justice, consulted on the creation of this tool and will lead engagement of this tool at UC San Diego via the Culture and Justice Quorum, our department health equity committee.



### UC San Diego JEDI Health Equity Symposium

UC San Diego Health Chief Administrative Officer of health justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion Crystal Cene, MD, MPH (top-right), OBGYN & RS Vice Chair of Culture and Justice Audra Meadows, MD, MPH (bottom-left), Geezer Ortega, MD, MPH, Faculty for Equitable Surgical Care at Brigham and Women’s (top-left) delivered equity-focused strategies for dismantling systemic racism moderated by Health, Justice, and Equity Implementation Coach Shivon Carreno (bottom-right).



### Key Strategies

1. Communicate maternal equity as a priority
  - Make equity a strategic priority within the organization
  - Create governance to set and communicate goals for health equity
2. Collect, disaggregate, and monitor data
  - Stratify data by REaL, SOGI, SDoH, geography
  - Identify Root Cause and Magnitude of Disparities
  - Self-Report demographic identifiers for accuracy
  - Include Patient Reported Experience Measures in Data Dashboards
3. Educate clinicians
  - Acknowledge the effect of racism on health outcomes
  - Invest resources to educate staff and implement best practices

Source: Meadows et al. ObstetGynecol 2023

# Culture & Justice

## Milk Bank is a Resource to Reduce Racial Disparities & Fulfill Need

For August breastfeeding month, CJQ worked closely with the [Milk Bank](#) (a \$5M funded 2020 startup) and pediatric faculty to learn about the prodigious efforts UC San Diego Health has implemented to encourage breastfeeding. Hillcrest and Jacobs Medical Centers have been designated as “Baby Friendly” facilities by UNICEF and Baby-Friendly USA, Inc. for meeting their Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative and illustrating commitment to breastfeeding mothers and babies: **“It represents the efforts of many birthing facilities, charitable and educational organizations, and individuals working together.”** According to Alison Wolf, CPNP, this honor shows dedication to the impressive goal of helping supply vital breastmilk to every NICU in San Diego County (LA is only at 20% for comparison). For care providers, please inform lactating patients at 6-wk follow-up visits of the option to donate surplus breast milk. Donors are subject to a thorough health screening process by a coordinator to ensure breastmilk safety.

UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CALIFORNIA  
HEALTH

Milk  
Bank

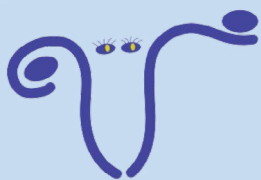


“UC San Diego Health supports the breastmilk feeding goals of all its patients. We have been Baby-Friendly certified since 2006, and 98% of our new parents breastfeed. During the newborn stay, any baby who needs it is provided with donor milk from the UC Health Milk Bank. We offer lactation consultant coverage on the postpartum units 7 days per week, a weekly support group for discharged families, and consultations with Breastfeeding Medicine specialists. UCSD is also at the forefront of breastmilk research and founded the Human Milk Institute the past year.”

– Michelle Leff, MD, IBCLC, FAAP

Professor of Pediatrics / Newborn Hospitalist / General Pediatrician,  
University of California, San Diego

## 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)

UC San Diego

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology  
and Reproductive Sciences

RESIDENT MIGRANT HEALTH  
HOLIDAY DONATION DRIVE

## This issue of Fimbria's At Your Cervix highlight – Migrant Health at the Border

### What is happening?

Since September, there has been an influx of migrants from around the world seeking asylum at the border. San Diego County and the Associated Press reports that there have been around 13,000 migrants dropped off at transit stations in the region in the last month, with around 500 additional migrants arriving daily. Some will stay in San Diego and many have other destinations in the U.S. The migrants are being gathered in Open Air Sites at the US-Mexico Border as they await processing by California Border Patrol. The two main sites are between border walls in San Ysidro, CA and out in the desert region in Jacumba, CA. Many of these people are infants, children, and pregnant women. They are often waiting for days without food, clothing, shelter, or medical care and some sustain injuries from scaling the wall. Human rights organizations have been trying to manage this humanitarian crisis, as a start by providing these basic needs.

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously in a bipartisan manner in September 2023 to declare a humanitarian crisis for asylum seekers at the border and request more federal support.

### How can we help?

Along with other UCSD departments, we will be collecting non-perishable food items (i.e. canned goods, freeze-dried meals) and clothing for all ages from now through the Holiday season. Collection bins will be located in the 7th floor Resident lounge, on the Jacobs Medical Center Labor and Delivery floor in the Family Lounge, and at Medical Offices South 2nd floor clinic in the physician work room. Stay tuned for additional updates on ways to help.

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

## NEW FELLOW MATCHES & INCOMING BIOS

### FALL CHIEF RESIDENT MATCH

*Congratulations to our chief resident, Dr. Renee Sullender, on her match into UNC's MIGS fellowship program!*



**RENEE SULLENDER, MD, MPH**

**Medical School:** University of Wisconsin School of Medicine

**Residency:** UC San Diego OB/GYN

**Fellowship Division:** Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (MIGS) at UNC

The department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences would like to congratulate Dr. Renee Sullender, MD, MPH as she will be continuing her bright career at the University of North Carolina in Minimally Invasive Gynecological Surgery (MIGS). Dr. Sullender came to our program from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and is currently one of the Residency Program's Administrative Chief Residents.

### FALL FELLOW OBGYNRS MATCH

*We are thrilled to introduce our AY 2024-2025 fellowship matches. Welcome aboard fellows!*

**OBYN &  
RS  
Incoming  
Fellows  
AY  
2024-2025**



**Karen Greiner,  
MD, MPH**  
Kaiser  
Permanente San  
Francisco  
**Complex Family  
Planning Fellow**



**Patrick  
Penlosa, MD**  
UC Irvine  
**Gynecologic  
Oncology  
Fellow**



**Rachel Wiley,  
MD, MPH**  
UT Health  
Houston  
**Maternal-Fetal  
Medicine  
Fellow**



**Carissa Pekny,  
MD, CPT, MC,  
USA**  
National Capital  
Consortium  
**Reproductive  
Endocrinology  
& Infertility  
Fellow**



**Alexandra  
Nutaitis, D.O.**  
Cleveland Clinic  
FPMRS  
**Urogynecolog  
y &  
Reconstructive  
Pelvic Surgery  
Fellow**

**NEW FELLOW BIOS**

*Meet Our First-Year Fellows in the Department of OBGYN & RS Specialty Divisions!*



**KELLY CHACON, MD**  
**Hometown:** Miami, Florida  
**Undergraduate School:** Yale University  
**Medical School:** Harvard Medical School  
**Residency:** Brigham and Women's Hospital / Massachusetts General Hospital  
**Fellowship Division:** Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility  
**Career Interests:** Oncofertility, Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome, Fertility Preservation, Reproductive Justice

*Kelly Chacón is the first-year clinical fellow in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility. She was born and raised in Miami, Florida among a large family hailing from Jamaica and El Salvador. She attended Yale University for her undergraduate studies where she majored in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. She then went to Harvard Medical School and stayed in Boston for OB/GYN Residency at the Brigham and Women's Hospital / Massachusetts General Hospital Integrated Residency Program. She is very excited to join the fantastic REI division at UCSD and continue her training in a climate and locale more familiar to her roots! In her free time, she enjoys baking treats of all kinds, cooking spicy food, hiking, seeing live music with her husband, and chasing after their 2-year-old daughter and Havanesse puppy.*



**TATYANNA HENDERSON, MD**  
**Hometown:** Boston, Massachusetts  
**Undergraduate School:** Eckerd College  
**Medical School:** Duke University  
**Residency:** Ob/Gyn at UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA  
**Fellowship Division:** Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery joined with Kaiser Permanente, San Diego, CA  
**Career interests:** Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery

*Tatyanna Henderson, MD is the first-year Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery fellow. She completed her residency in Obstetrics & Gynecology at UC San Diego where she served as an At Your Cervix resident lead. She enjoys spending quality time with family and friends. In addition, throughout her time in residency has become a budding mixologist with an ever growing collection of cocktail recipes.*



**KELSEY LOELIGER, MD, PhD**  
**Hometown:** Baltimore, Maryland  
**Undergraduate School:** University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)  
**Graduate School:** PhD from Yale School of Public Health  
**Medical School:** Yale School of Medicine  
**Residency:** University of California, San Francisco  
**Fellowship Division:** Complex Family Planning  
**Career Interests:** Complex Family Planning, clinical work, research, reproductive justice

*Kelsey is joining us after completing her OB/GYN residency at UCSF. She is originally from Baltimore, Maryland, and received her M.D. from the Yale School of Medicine and Ph.D. from the Yale School of Public Health's Department of Epidemiology. Her dissertation research used statewide databases to track and ultimately improve HIV treatment outcomes for incarcerated individuals after their release from prison or jail. Her goals in research, clinical work, and advocacy include addressing social determinants of health and the overlap between reproductive injustice, substance use disorders, incarceration, infectious diseases, mental health, and interpersonal violence and trauma. She is looking forward to continuing her growth during fellowship as both a clinician and researcher. Career interests also include substance use treatment in pregnancy and gender-affirming care. Outside of work, she is excited to go hiking with her two dogs and explore San Diego's many amazing neighborhoods, restaurants, and beaches!*



**RENEE RIVAS, MD, PhD**  
**Hometown:** Richardson, TX  
**Undergraduate School:** University of Alabama  
**Medical School:** University of California, San Francisco  
**Residency:** Yale-New Haven Hospital OB/GYN Residency  
**Fellowship Division:** Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility  
**Career Interests:** early pregnancy, embryo development, infertility and IVF, spermatogenesis, women's health

*Renee Rivas is the first-year clinical fellow in Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility. She earned her combined MD/PhD at the University of California, San Francisco before completing her OB/GYN residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Connecticut. Her hobbies include: herding children, reading, long walks and cooking.*



**Minhazur Sarker, MD**  
**Hometown:** Corvallis, OR  
**Undergraduate School:** Oregon State University  
**Medical School:** Oregon Health and Science University  
**Residency:** Ichan School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
**Fellowship Division:** Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
**Career Interests:** Management of and advancing research within the realms of placenta accreta spectrum, fetal growth restriction, pre-eclampsia, cholestasis

*Dr. Sarker was born in Japan, lived in Belgium and Pennsylvania, and finally settled in Corvallis, OR. After attending Oregon State University for his undergraduate degree in microbiology, he worked as a researcher at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). He later obtained his medical degree at OHSU where he found a passion for obstetrics and gynecology. During his residency training at the Ichan School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, he became drawn to the intricacies of complex pregnancy care, which found him pursuing a fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine. He hopes to pursue a career in academic medicine at the end of fellowship. When not in the hospital, Dr. Sarker enjoys landscape photography, ceramics, cooking, watch collecting, traveling the world, and riding his peloton.*



**ELISE WILSON, MD**  
**Hometown:** San Diego, CA (Welcome Home!)  
**Undergraduate School:** Yale University  
**Medical School:** University of Pennsylvania  
**Residency:** Washington University, St. Louis, MO  
**Fellowship Division:** Gynecologic Oncology  
**Career interests:** Gynecologic Oncology

*Hello, my name is Elise Wilson and I am the first-year gynecologic oncology fellow. I am thrilled to be at UCSD for fellowship, and enjoy getting out into nature and enjoying the beach as well as checking out new restaurants in town.*

**NEW FACULTY HIRES**

**We are proud to welcome our newest faculty members to the Department of OBGYN & RS**



**Gillian Mackay, MD**  
*Associate Professor, Division of Obstetrics & Gynecology (Generalist)*



**Nicole Teal, MD, MPH**  
*Assistant Professor, Maternal-Fetal Medicine Division and Women's Reproductive Health Research Program Scholar*

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

**Our specialty programs are growing with help of new team talent.**

**Yomalie Maganda***Women's Reproductive Mental Health Program Coordinator*

New to OBGYN & RS is an incredible Women's Reproductive Mental Health (WRMH) Program Coordinator working with Dr. Jessica Kingston, OB/GYN Generalist Division Director, Amber Rukaj, Licensed MFT, and Dr. Alison Reminick, Psychiatrist. We are overjoyed Yomalie has agreed to take on this intricate role. Yomalie joins us from the Ambulatory Float Team where she has supported our outpatient clinics as administrative support along with countless hours serving our community through our COVID-19 Operations team. She is passionate about advocating for women and the value of mental health in their lives. She is excited to work with her team to offer personalized, comprehensive, and compassionate care.



**Yomalie Maganda**  
*WRMH Program Coordinator*

**Center\* for OB/GYN Research Innovation (CORI)****Nastaran Afari, MA***CORI Administrative Director*

CORI is a fascinating partnership of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Science faculty with research, clinical, and academic communities on the cusp of innovation. Our department is thrilled to embrace Nastaran as the new Administrative Director orchestrating this herculean collaboration given her breadth of experience navigating human subject research, Clinical Trials, and UCSD's Institutional Review Board (eIRB). Nastaran may be a bright familiar face as she boomerangs back to OBGYN & RS after a few years at the UCSD Office of Contract & Grants Administration (OCGA). She notably helped Dr. Laurent launch her brilliant lab as a Lab Manager and was even Fund Manager in our department business office alongside Michael Morales so is well appointed to materialize CORI vision! \*official status in progress



**Nastaran Afari, MA**  
*CORI Administrative Director*

**WELCOME NEW OBGYN & RS ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS (APP)**

Our clinics are flourishing with exceptional OB/GYN skill leading the forefront of high quality patient care. We are pleased to announce Rachel Ely-Konoske, CNM, Nathalie Choi, RN, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, CNM, WHNP-BC, Andrea Corry, CNM, Jasmine Ortega, CNM, and Alicia Skemp, PA have joined our team.

**Meet our  
new  
OBGYN &  
RS  
Advanced  
Practice  
Providers**



**Rachel Ely-Konoske, CNM**  
*Certified Nurse  
Midwife*

**Nathalie Choi, RN,  
MSN, RNC-OB, C-  
EFM, CNM, WHNP-  
BC**  
*Certified Nurse  
Midwife, Hospitalist  
(Hillcrest)*

**Andrea Corry,  
CNM**  
*Certified Nurse  
Midwife,  
Obstetrics &  
Gynecology  
(Outpatient APP)*

**Jasmine Ortega,  
CNM**  
*Certified Nurse  
Midwife, MFM*

**Alicia Skemp, PA**  
*Nurse  
Practitioner, Sr.  
Physician  
Assistant  
(Outpatient APP)*

**WELCOME NEW RESEARCHERS and ADMINISTRATORS**

UC San Diego research labs are among the world's best and we're grateful for our new Triton trailblazers. A warm welcome to newly arriving lab members, administrators, and technologists: Miracle Anderson, Breanna Chachere, Ann Hileman, Jacey Hu, Gina James, Alyssa Kobayashi, Blanca Kwon, and Trinh Woolridge.



**Miracle Anderson**  
*Lab Assistant in Pantham  
Lab*

**Breanna Chachere**  
*Assistant Clinical  
Research Coordinator*

**Ann Hileman**  
*Lead Research  
Administrator*

**Jacey Hu**  
*Assistant Clinical Research  
Coordinator in Su Lab*



**Gina James**  
*Principal Research  
Ultrasound Technologist*

**Alyssa Kobayashi**  
*Research Associate in  
Alperin Lab*

**Blanca Kwon**  
*Bilingual Clinical Research  
Coordinator in Su Lab*

**Trinh Woolridge**  
*Lab Assistant in Alperin Lab*



# RECENT EVENTS

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



**Recent State Panel: “At a Crossroads: The Dual Threat of Black Maternal Mortality and Chronic Disease”** included Dr. Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman and was hosted by Dr. Akilah Weber, CA State Assembly Member for District 79 .



**2023 Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) First-Year Fellows Retreat** with Dr. Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, Dr. Jerry Ballas, and first-year fellows: Dr. Minhazur Sarker (UC San Diego) and Dr. Joseph Mims (UC San Diego chief resident graduate now a first-year fellow at the University of Utah). The retreat was held on October 21-23 at The Eaglewood Resort in Itasca, IL.

**RECENT EVENTS**

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



**XXIV International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics** was held at the Paris Convention Centre on October 9-12. Left: Dr. Maureen Ries and Dr. Kristy Zachek at FIGO. Right: FIGO president, Jeanne Conry (red suit) from ACOG District 9 with Dr. Maureen Ries and ACOG District 9 Leadership team.



Left: Dr. Alejandro Gonzalez and Dr. Maureen Ries presented their work & partnership with Prevencasa clinic in Tijuana. Right: Drs. Shira Varon, Kristy Zachek, Chief resident graduate now at Massachusetts General, and Maureen Ries at FIGO.

## RECENT EVENTS

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



**The Department of OBGYN & RS Annual Fall Picnic** was held at De Anza Cove Park in Mission Bay on October 8, 2023 with a bounce house, balloon toss, games, and delicious food. Pictured above is Dr. Priya Pantham and husband with Michael Morales, Administrative Vice Chair, and Nastaran Afari, MA, Administrative Director for CORI.

**ENGAGEMENT & SYMPOSIA SERIES**  
**PART 1: CELEBRATING MIDWIFERY WEEK**  
 Wednesday October 4th, 2023  
 11:00am - 2:00pm  
 Moores Cancer Center

JOIN US AS PARTNERS IN A DISCUSSION ABOUT CURRENT BIRTH PRACTICES IN OUR COMMUNITY

This event will fill fast! Register for free using the QR code.

**Network**  
 Meet birth supporters and colleagues in our community.

**Share**  
 About the work you do - bring flyers, postcards, and business cards.

**Updates**  
 Do you see the essential families at UC San Diego-Health?

**Answers**  
 To frequently asked questions

**Grand Rounds**  
 Celebrating National Midwifery Week (1.2 pm)  
**Keynote Speaker: Jennie Joseph, CNM**  
 Advocate, Author, Educator, Midwife, & Speaker  
 Founder & President of Compassion Childbirth  
**A TIME Magazine Woman of the Year 2022**

**Who Should Attend**

- Birth Clinicians
- Community and County health agencies
- Childbirth educators, birth & postpartum doulas
- Nursing, midwives, & medical students
- Homebirth & free-standing birth center clinicians and staff
- Chiropractors, acupuncturists, massage therapists, MPTs
- Lactation consultants, mental health therapists, yoga instructors
- Birth photographers, midwifery-legal practice attorneys

All Birth Supporters Welcome!

The event is supported by:  
 • UCSD OB-GYN Reproductive Sciences, Women Health & Family Center  
 • Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences  
 • Department of Family Medicine & Community Health  
 • Health & Health Services (Health Policy & Practice, Childbirth Education Program)



**UCSD Birth Community Engagement & Symposia Series: Celebrating Midwifery Week** moderated by Audra Meadows, MD, MPH with phenomenal presentation by Karen Perdon, MSN, CNM, Annie Cooper, MSN, CNM, and keynote speaker Jennie Joseph, CNM and TIME Magazine Woman of the Year 2022 held at the Moores Cancer Center on October 4, 2023.



**The Department of OBGYN & RS Annual Education Retreat** was held on August 16, 2023 in the Goldberg Auditorium at Moores Cancer Center for OBGYN Residents. Presenters from far left: Maureen Ries, MD, Residency Program Director, Julia Cormano, MD, Michelle Daniel, MD, MHPE, Vice Dean for Medical Education, and Nadia Kunzier, D.O.



**The Department of OBGYN & RS 2023 Annual Research Retreat** was held on September 6, 2023 in the Atkinson Pavilion at the IDA and Cecil Green Faculty Club and featured fascinating scientific innovation and accomplishments in our labs.



**ACOG Annual District Meeting** in Maui, HI leadership sessions with current and former UCSD OBGYNRS members. From left to right: Diana Ha (prior resident), current District IX JF chair; Nicole Economu (prior fellow), current District IX. Young physician rep; Maureen Ries (current faculty), current Global Health Committee co-chair; Stacy Hulley (prior resident), current Section 8 vice chair; Jasmine Lai (prior resident), current section 8 past chair; Julia Cormano (current faculty), current section 8 chair; Pratima Gupta (current faculty), public health committee

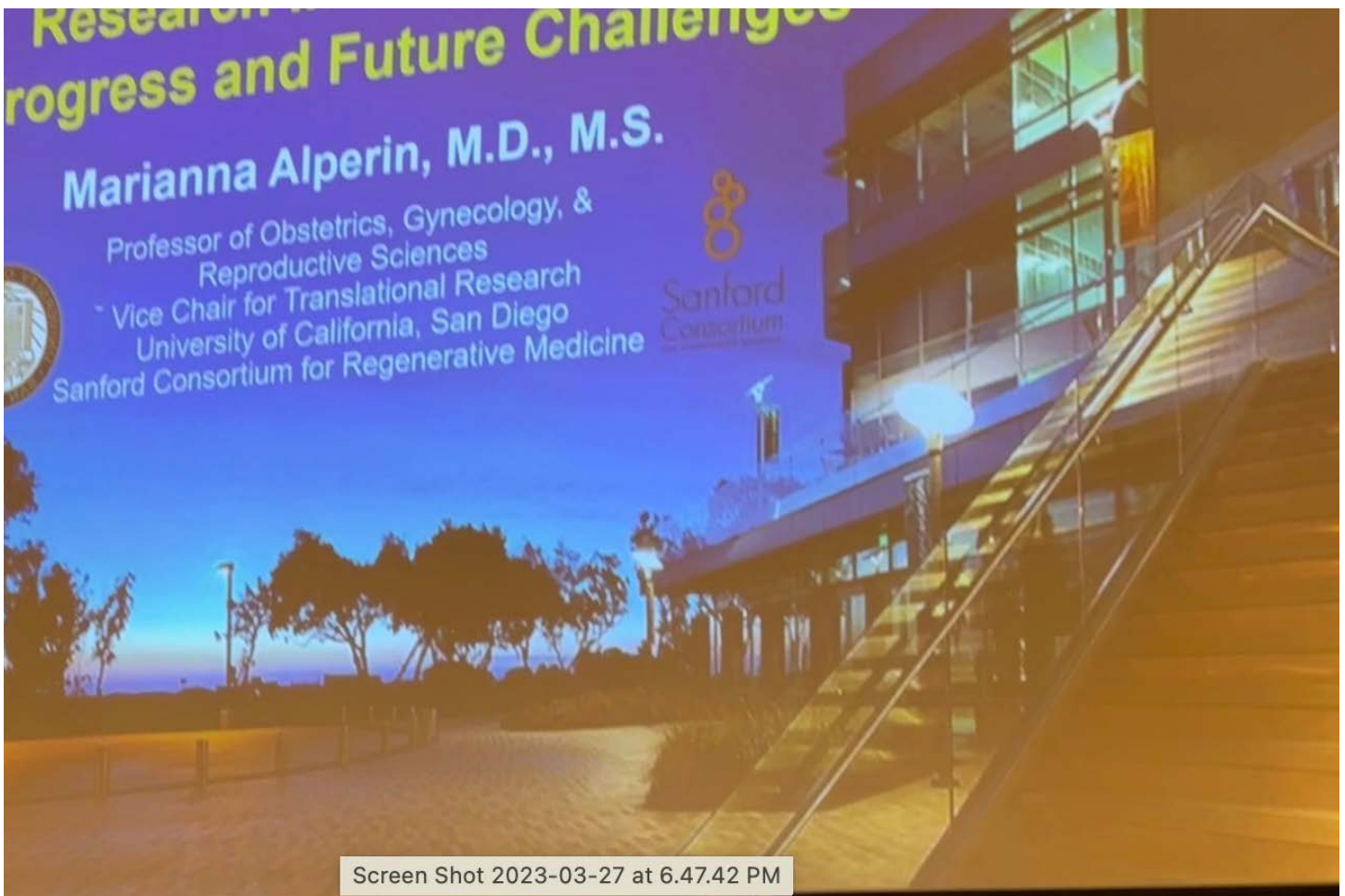


**UC San Diego Health**  
Department of OBGYN  
& Reproductive Sciences

**The Department of OBGYN & RS 2023 Research Retreat** held on May 31, 2023 in the Goldberg Auditorium at Moores Cancer Center

## RECENT EVENTS

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



Screen Shot 2023-03-27 at 6.47.42 PM



**2023 American Gynecological & Obstetrical Society Annual Meeting** held September 28th-30th in Chicago, IL with superb presentation by Marianna Alperin, MD, MS.

# OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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 (PFDN)). 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](mailto:elukacz@health.ucsd.edu)



# OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

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

UC San Diego  
School of Medicine

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,  
& Reproductive Sciences

## Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences Academic Specialist

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Diego is seeking academic specialists with a clinical interest in inpatient care to join the Hospitalist Division. This division member will join 5 current Hospitalists to provide both inpatient and outpatient care at the UCSD Medical Center Hillcrest Labor and Delivery. The Hospitalist team provides 24/7 coverage for low to moderate risk obstetrics patients. Hospitalists also perform ER consultations, admissions and surgeries for gynecology patients presenting in the emergency room or for obstetrics patients presenting to the Level 1 trauma center. The hospitalist team works with midwives, residents and students. Work duties are negotiable, and will include a blended role with a strong emphasis of inpatient care and general outpatient clinic. As an example, a typical week may entail a 24 hour inpatient shift and 2.5 days of outpatient clinic. Our Hillcrest clinic is home to a diverse patient population.

Successful applicants will demonstrate an aptitude towards exceptional working relationships with certified nurse midwives and nurse practitioners as well as a dedication to medical education including the direct teaching of residents and medical students.

Qualified applicants should be Board Certified or Active Candidate status in general obstetrics and gynecology. Previous experience or fellowship training in an OB/GYN hospitalist program is not a requirement. The appointment and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience in accordance with UC policy. 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, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status.

UC San Diego Health offers an extensive range of women's health throughout San Diego. Our original medical center is located in Hillcrest in the heart of San Diego and is our lower volume labor and delivery site with plans for further growth as the medical center is currently undergoing re-development.

Interested applicants must apply using the following link: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03335>

Please also send curriculum vitae, cover letter along with names and contact information of references to:

Gina Frugoni, MD Division Director  
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences  
[gfrugoni@health.ucsd.edu](mailto:gfrugoni@health.ucsd.edu)

UC San Diego  
School of Medicine

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,  
& Reproductive Sciences

## FACULTY POSITION IN COMPLEX FAMILY PLANNING

We are excited to announce and are now accepting applications for an Assistant or Associate Clinical Professor Faculty Position in Obstetrics & Gynecology.

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences 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 a Complex Family Planning faculty member to join our team.

Candidates must have a MD or MD/PhD in areas of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Candidates with an MD must be board eligible or board certified and be eligible for a California medical license or equivalent certification/permit as determined by the Medical Board of California.

This position will include clinical care and teaching of medical students, residents and fellows. Clinical responsibilities will include staffing complex family planning clinics and operating room procedures. There will also be a generalist clinic and twice a month obstetric in-house call. The educational responsibilities will include family planning didactics for the medical students, residents and fellows.

The appropriate series and appointment will be at the Assistant or Associate Professor level and will be based on the candidate's qualifications and experience. A link to 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](http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-278.pdf)

Applications must be submitted through the University of California San Diego's Academic Personnel RECRUIT system at: <https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03335>. Also, please email me ([smody@ucsd.edu](mailto:smody@ucsd.edu)) if you interested.

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and based on the University of California pay scales. 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](https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-671.pdf)

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 (PFDN)). 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](mailto:elukacz@health.ucsd.edu)

**OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS***Department of OBGYN & RS is hiring new faculty committed to academic and clinical excellence***UC San Diego**  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**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>

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.

**Department of OBGYN & RS News  
is on Social Media. Come Join Us!****@UCSD\_ObGyn**  
**#UCSD\_ObGyn****@UCSD\_ObGynReproSci**  
**@UCSDObGyn**  
**@UCSD\_Urogyn**