

CELEBRATIONS 2024



UCSF

Department of Radiology
and Biomedical Imaging



Downtown San Francisco

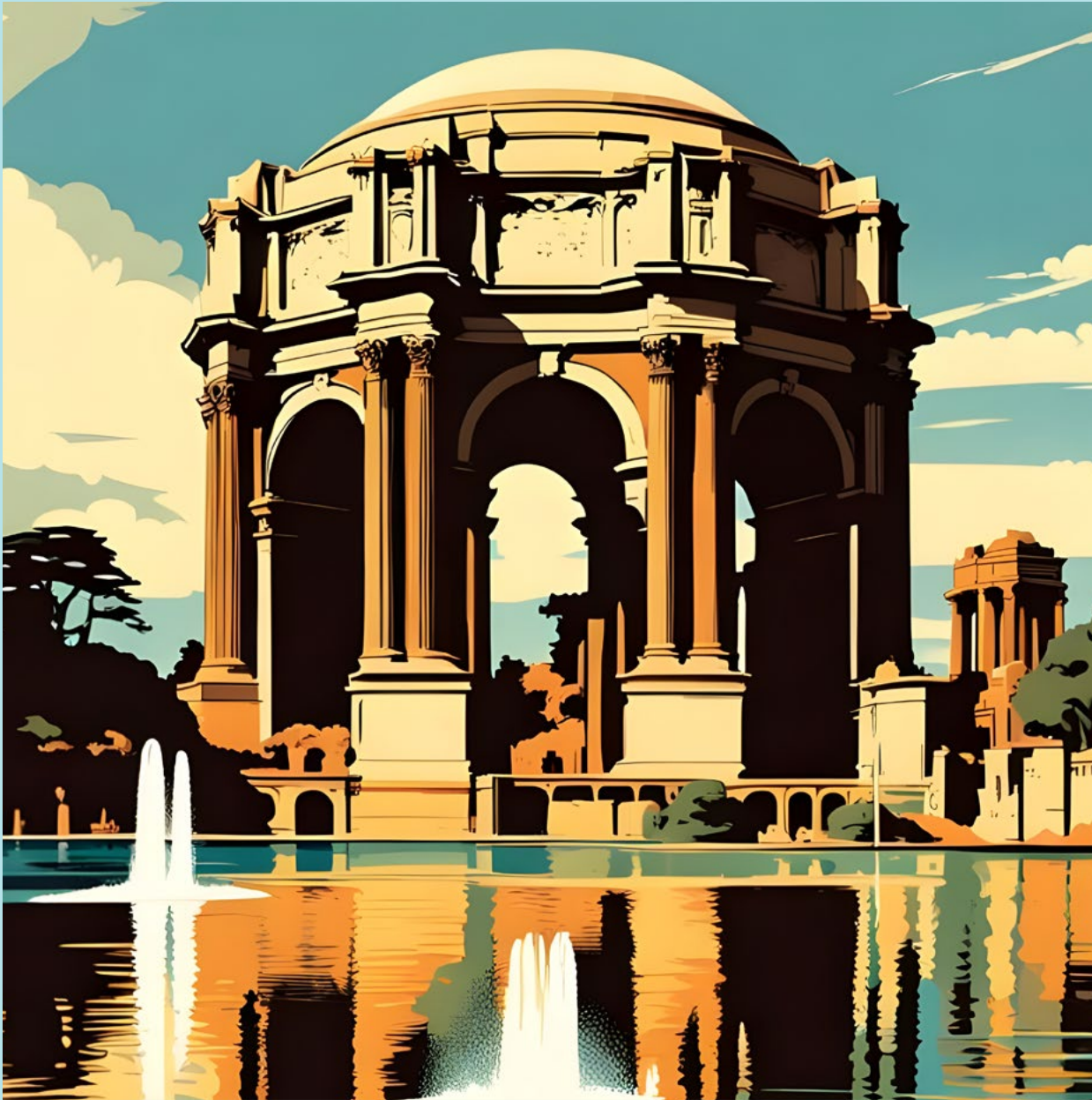
The images on the covers and interior pages were created with SDXL, an open-source generative AI tool. When asked to imagine various San Francisco landmarks in the style of a vintage travel poster SDXL generated dozens of possibilities, most of which were inaccurate or hallucinatory depictions of buildings, geography, or the laws of physics. The images used here have been further edited with Adobe Photoshop.

Celebrations | Summer 2024

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Palace of Fine Arts

Dear Colleagues,

One pervasive theme for the past few years has been growth. Growth in the number of patients we care for, growth in our research funding and programs, and especially growth in the numbers of talented faculty, staff, and healthcare workers who have joined our ranks in the Department of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging.

This year, we welcome 10 new faculty members to the department. You may read their brief bios in the following pages. Several assistant professors in this cohort are bringing new perspectives and practices from other institutions, others are coming “home grown” as the outstanding graduates from our own residency and fellowship programs. It will be fun to see these individuals integrate into our community. We look forward to supporting their professional growth as clinicians, educators, and researchers.

Eleven faculty were promoted this year. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, academic productivity, and many contributions that they invested to achieve this milestone. Academic promotions reflect the increase in national and international stature that came about through significant individual time and effort. We are delighted to celebrate with you as a department.

Four faculty members received awards for their contributions to mentoring, volunteer service, teaching, and clinical excellence, and one alumnus was recognized for exemplifying the department’s legacy in the national radiology community. Each award winner embodies the UCSF missions to teach, heal, and discover, and we are honored to recognize these faculty with accolades.

Two faculty members have retired, though both will be recalled to service in their retirement. We are grateful for your work in our reading rooms, clinics and labs; your wisdom imparted through mentoring trainees and junior faculty over the years; and your contributions to the profession at large. We know that scores of patients and practitioners will continue to benefit from your insights into complex conditions.

From new hires to promotions to awards and retirement, we are delighted that UCSF Radiology & Biomedical Imaging is your professional community, and we look forward to supporting your continued success.

Christopher P. Hess, MD, PhD

Alexander Margulis Distinguished Professor and Chair





Academic Affairs Team: Apple Palad, Connie Jang, Christine Glastonbury, MBBS, Selena Yan, Lorna Kwok, Jocelyn Pulido.

Christine Glastonbury, MBBS

Vice Chair, Academic Affairs

Welcome to the fifth edition of our UCSF Radiology and Biomedical Imaging Faculty Celebration. As we reflect on the year gone by, we are thrilled to present this annual compilation dedicated to our esteemed faculty members. Despite the obstacles presented by the ever-changing landscape of academia, we remain committed to honoring and celebrating the dedication, innovation, and expertise of faculty that define our department.

Join us in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments, promotions, awards, retirements, and new additions to our Radiology teams. Your support and appreciation play a vital role in nurturing the spirit of excellence that thrives within our community of high-achieving scientists and radiologists. Thank you for another outstanding year.



Coit Tower

Welcome

We are delighted to introduce clinical faculty members who are joining us in 2024. All of our faculty contribute to trainee education as well as new and ongoing initiatives that ensure our department's reputation for clinical and research innovation.

As each new faculty member joins our UCSF community, we extend a warm welcome and our best wishes for successful, fulfilling careers.



Shinn-Huey Shirley Chou, MD, MPH

Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology

Breast Imaging

Dr. Chou received her medical degree from the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in 2010. She completed a radiology residency at the University of Washington (2015) and a breast imaging fellowship (2016) at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. In 2020, she received an MPH in clinical effectiveness at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Since 2020 she has been a faculty member at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Radiology Department and the Harvard Medical School, where she has served in various clinical, education, and quality

improvement leadership roles. Dr. Chou received the Anne Klibanski Visiting Scholars Award from the MGH's Center for Faculty Development in 2022; she was named a Fellow of the Society of Breast Imaging in 2023.

Dr. Chou's clinical and research interests focus on clinical procedures for diagnostic breast imaging evaluation, a protocol for validation of kinetic analysis on abridged breast MRI, prospective standardization and database development for ultrasound biopsies, and diagnostic automated breast ultrasound system (ABUS) implementation. She has published on machine learning, thoracic diseases, digital tomosynthesis, preoperative breast MRI, shear-wave elastography of the breast, computer-aided heterogeneity analysis, and gadolinium contrast enhancement.

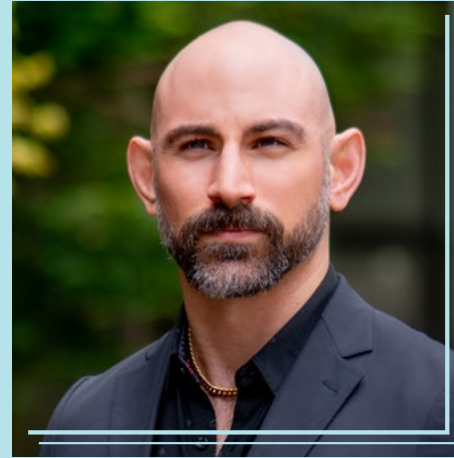
Since 2016, Dr. Chou has mentored trainees and junior faculty. She is frequently invited to present at regional and national breast imaging meetings. She is an ad hoc reviewer for journals including British Journal of Radiology, RadioGraphics, and American Radiology, where she is an editorial board member.



Alexandra Gersing, MD
Associate Professor In Residence
Musculoskeletal Imaging

Dr. Gersing earned her medical degree in 2011 after studying at the University of Hamburg and the Technical University of Munich (TUM). She completed a radiology residency (2019), followed by a musculoskeletal imaging fellowship (2020), both at the University Hospital of the TUM. She was a postdoctoral research fellow in musculoskeletal imaging at UCSF from 2014 to 2016. Dr. Gersing has been a professor of radiology and Director of Magnetic Resonance Imaging and AI Research at the University Hospital of Munich and the Ludwig Maximilians University Munich.

Dr. Gersing has led multidisciplinary teams applying MR imaging in patient care and research projects focusing on musculoskeletal imaging and AI. Her research is published in top journals such as Radiology, Osteoarthritis and Cartilage, American Journal of Sports Medicine, and European Radiology. In 2023, she was awarded the Wilhelm-Conrad-Roentgen Prize from the German Society of Radiology and the Seed Grant of the International Skeletal Society. She is a member of the editorial board of several journals (e.g. European Journal of Radiology). As an educator, Dr. Gersing mentors doctoral candidates, postdoctoral scholars, residents, and junior faculty. She has been an invited lecturer at several top-rated societies and institutions and serves as an elected executive committee member at the European Society of Skeletal Radiology and the German Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology.



Masis Isikbay, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology
ER/Acute Care

Masis Isikbay, MD, received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 2018. At UCSF, he completed his internship (2019), diagnostic radiology residency (2023) during which he served as Chief Resident, and neuroradiology fellowship (2024).

Dr. Isikbay has taught trainees of all levels at UCSF School of Medicine, mentoring pre-med and medical students, leading symposia, and has lectured at regional, national, and international meetings. He created the medical education website Stepwards.com and accompanying YouTube channel, for which he received an RSNA education grant. Dr. Isikbay has contributed to quality improvement projects such as body and neuro IR

post procedure order sets, first-year resident rotation guides, and primers for new trainees. He was recognized with the 2023 Elmer Ng Award for Outstanding Resident in Diagnostic Radiology.

Dr. Isikbay was a 2022-23 NIH T-32 scholar conducting research on improving clinical care including: the COVID-19 diagnostic pathway, machine learning mediated imaging post-processing, and diagnostic/procedural medical education. Dr. Isikbay worked with the UCSF Neuroendovascular Surgery service to create an updated classification system for shunting arteriovenous lesions of the spine. He was nominated as one of 2023's most influential radiology researchers by AuntMinnie.com.

Dr. Isikbay is a deputy editor for the journal Radiology and was awarded the RSNA's 2023-24 Olmstead Editorial Fellowship. Dr. Isikbay is active in professional societies, serving on the neuroradiology practice parameters committee for the ACR and on the education committee for the ASNR.



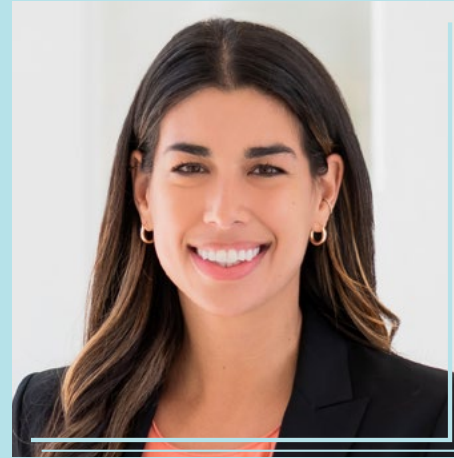
Nandan Keshav, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology

Abdominal Imaging

Dr. Keshav earned his medical degree at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, VA, in 2016. He completed a diagnostic radiology residency in 2021 at University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center followed by a fellowship in abdominal imaging and ultrasound at UCSF. Since 2022 Dr Keshav has practiced at Kaiser Permanente in the East Bay where he helped implement an MRI endometriosis protocol, and worked with gynecologic surgeons in improving correlation between imaging and operative findings. He has also served as volunteer clinical faculty in the Abdominal Imaging and Ultrasound division at UCSF.

Dr. Keshav's clinical and academic interests include hepatobiliary, pancreatic, and genitourinary imaging, with particular interest in the continued evolution and applicability of the Bosniak 2019 criteria for cystic renal disease. He has presented abstracts and educational exhibits at multiple imaging society meetings. He has also published educational review articles and served as a resident panelist for the *Radiographics* Genitourinary Panel in 2020.



Alyssa Kirsch, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology

ZSFG and Abdominal Imaging

Dr. Kirsch earned her medical degree from the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine in Rochester, Michigan in 2017. She completed a diagnostic radiology residency at Corewell Health University Hospital (formerly Beaumont Hospital), Royal Oak, Michigan in 2022, where she was chief resident. She completed her abdominal imaging fellowship at UCSF in December 2023, during which she focused on complicated examinations including post-transplant and post-operative imaging, trauma-based radiology, and diverse, rare pathology.

She has presented research at regional and national conferences on imaging blunt injuries to the bowel and mesentery, choroid plexus carcinoma, biopsy of suspicious osseous lesions, non-adnexal ectopic pregnancy, neuroimaging of acute viral encephalitis, and imaging of toxic and metabolic encephalopathy.

Dr. Kirsch enjoys teaching medical students whether in the reading room, via lectures, or in formal and informal mentoring relationships. During residency, Dr. Kirsch was recognized for her contributions to medical education (2020-22), and with neuroradiology Case of the Year awards.



Amanda Liu, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology

Pediatric Radiology

Amanda Liu, MD, received her medical degree at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University in Providence, RI, in 2018. Following an internship at the Tucson Hospitals Medical Education Program in Arizona, she completed a diagnostic radiology residency at UCSF in 2023 and received the Elmer Ng Outstanding Resident Award. She completed her pediatric radiology fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in 2024.

Dr. Liu is passionate about radiology education. At UCSF, she served as chair of the Resident Curriculum Committee, spearheading the development of a new in-service exam, end-of-rotation quizzes, and monthly

site-based case competitions. She also served as a CORE Curriculum class representative and Resident Liaison for Medical Student Education. In her final year of residency, she completed the UCSF GME Health Professions Education Pathway and created a set of pediatric musculoskeletal radiography modules with pre- and post-tests for first-year residents to improve their call preparedness. During her fellowship, she served as the fellow representative on the CHOP Radiology Education Committee and was selected as the fellow representative for the National Pediatric Radiology Fellowship Curriculum Editorial Board of the Society for Pediatric Radiology. She has given multiple lectures to medical students and residents, and as a fellow, she was invited back to UCSF to lecture as the Residents' Visiting Professor for CORE preparation.

Dr. Liu has conducted research on head ultrasound abnormalities in premature infants and ultrasound of pediatric umbilical disorders. In addition to clinical research, she has an interest in radiology education research. She is currently collaborating with faculty at CHOP on a multi-institutional study implementing a machine learning-based educational application to support precision learning at the PACS workstation.



Yuntong (Lorin) Ma, MD, MPhil

Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology

Musculoskeletal Imaging SF VA Medical Center

Dr. Ma earned her medical degree at Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis. Dr. Ma completed a diagnostic radiology residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston where she was a clinical fellow at Harvard Medical School. In 2023, Dr. Ma completed a fellowship in musculoskeletal imaging at Stanford, where she was also a clinical scholar. Dr. Ma holds an MPhil in Sociology from St. John's College, Cambridge University, where she was a Gates Scholar.

During residency, Dr. Ma's research examined radiologic-pathologic correlation for decision-making after non-diagnostic CT-guided lung biopsies. She also investigated the diagnostic accuracy of radiographs for the detection of traumatic pelvic fractures in the elderly. During residency, Dr. Ma participated in the Mass General Brigham Data Science Pathway (DSP) to learn the fundamentals of artificial intelligence and machine learning in healthcare, and through this work developed a deep learning algorithm to differentiate rheumatoid arthritis from osteoarthritis on hand radiography. This work received the Senior Research Award.



Kambiz Nael, MD

Professor In Residence
Neuroradiology

Dr. Nael earned his medical degree from the Shiraz University Medical School in Shiraz, Iran, in 2000. At UCLA, he completed a diagnostic cardiovascular MRI post-doctoral fellowship (2006), a radiology residency (2011), and a neuroradiology fellowship (2012).

His faculty roles include neuroradiology and neuroscience at University of Arizona Medical Center (2012-15), the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York (2015-19), and David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA (2020-24). His leadership roles include Director of Neuroradiology MRI and Director of Stroke Imaging at University of Arizona, and Director of MRI, CT & Advanced Imaging

and Director of Neuroimaging Advanced and Exploratory Lab at The Icahn School of Medicine.

Dr. Nael's research investigates quantitative neuroimaging with a clinical focus on cerebrovascular diseases and stroke. His work on amplified MRI for coupled motion of the brain and blood flow was the winner of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers – Bioengineering Division Competition at the 2018 World Congress of Biomechanics, and the winner of the National Science Foundation visualization challenge. For ASNR, he is co-chair of the Research Committee and a member of the Educational Committee. He has won the Radiology Editor's Recognition Award with Distinction for four consecutive years.



Rajesh Shah, MD

Professor of Clinical Radiology
Interventional Radiology
Director of Clinical Trials

Rajesh Shah, MD, earned his medical degree at The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in 2004, followed by a diagnostic radiology residency at University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago (2009) and a vascular and interventional radiology fellowship at Stanford University Hospital in 2010. Since 2023 he has been Director of Interventional Radiology at the California Pacific Medical Center, Clinical Associate Professor at Stanford University, and an Interventional Radiologist at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, where he has served in various leadership roles. Prior experience includes private practice and faculty roles at

Weill Cornell Medical College and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

As an educator, Dr. Shah has mentored junior IR faculty at the VA Palo Alto, Stanford University, and at the California Pacific Medical Center. He has mentored trainees on research grants and created the VA resident rotation and "mini-fellowship" for IR-bound residents. Dr. Shah serves as the Society for Interventional Radiology (SIR) Division Councilor for Quality and Performance Improvement overseeing several committees dedicated to quality. In this role, he developed the Quality Improvement program for the SIR, and launched the VIRTEX Clinical Data Analytics Platform.

Dr. Shah was appointed as affiliated faculty at the Stanford Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine and Imaging (AIMI) and was awarded an AIMI grant to investigate machine learning in radiomics which has led to publications on machine learning in radiomics for lung cancer. He has published research on hepatocellular carcinoma, small-cell lung cancer, and embolic therapies. He is a Fellow of the Society of Interventional Radiology and active in the Society of Interventional Radiology and the American College of Radiology.



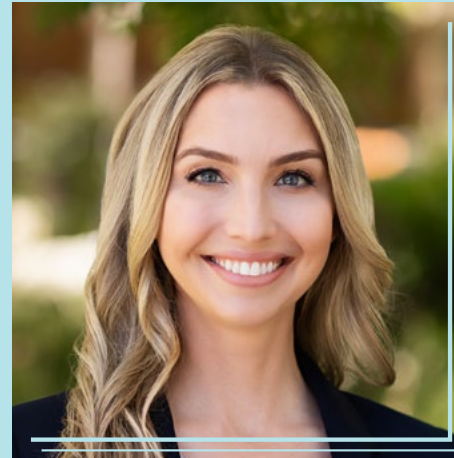
Thomas Yohannan, MD
Associate HS Clinical Professor
Molecular Imaging & Therapeutics

Dr. Yohannan received his medical degree in 2011 from the University of Illinois. He completed a radiology residency in 2016 at Aurora St. Luke's in Milwaukee where he won the Resident Teacher Award, followed by a nuclear medicine fellowship at UCSF (2017) and a clinical instructor year at Stanford (2018). Dr. Yohannan was most recently Chief of Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Safety Officer and Peer Review Liaison at Kaiser Permanente East Bay.

Dr. Yohannan's research focuses on improving lung cancer diagnosis and staging with the aim of identifying why FDG PET has limited utility for characterizing subsolid lung nodules/cancer and developing methods for better

staging and characterization of T1 lung cancers. Previous research includes lymph node metastases in lung carcinoids using FDG-PET/CT to predict response to immunotherapy, evaluation of 68Ga-PSMA-11 PET in biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer, and use of 18 F-florbetaben whole-body PET/MRI for evaluation of systemic amyloid deposition.

At Kaiser, Dr. Yohannan led the development of tools for imaging decision and therapeutic coordination support, including creating an application that standardized physician messaging to thyroid cancer patients in multiple languages. In 2021, The Permanente Medical Group Leadership Academy honored this work. He is a frequent educator for Kaiser East Bay and Northern California regional medical centers.



Victoria Young, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology
Pediatric Radiology

Victoria Young, MD, earned her medical degree from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in 2013 followed by a diagnostic radiology residency (2018) and a vascular and interventional radiology fellowship (2019), at Northwestern University in Chicago. Dr. Young did a pediatric radiology fellowship (2020) and a clinical instructor year at Stanford. From 2021-24 she was a faculty member in pediatric/interventional radiology at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford.

Her translational and clinical research focuses on pediatric issues including MR neurography, liver transplantation, musculoskeletal MRI, and venous malformations. She has

presented at conferences on tumor cryoablation, lymphangiography, and May-Thurner's syndrome.

At Stanford, Dr. Young mentored women and underrepresented trainees and wrote for the university's diversity newsletter. As the junior representative for the Society of Pediatric Interventional Radiology since 2022, she has implemented a mentor/mentee program. For three years, Dr. Young was co-lead of the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Radiology Peer Learning and Care Improvement committee (CIC).

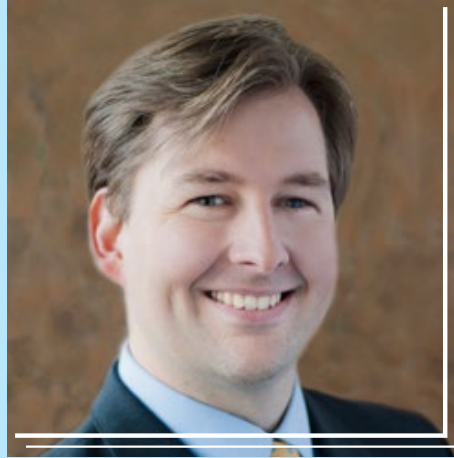
Congratulations

We are honored to announce that fifteen faculty members – four new associate professors and eleven new full professors – received academic promotions effective July 1, 2024.

Our department and UCSF recognizes each promoted faculty member for their significant contributions to our mission: Advancing Health Worldwide. To do this well, each faculty member balances teaching, clinical practice, scientific inquiry and clinical translation, and service activities to create an outstanding portfolio of accomplishments. We are incredibly proud of each faculty member and their unique qualities as teachers and mentors; department and university leaders committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and physicians and imaging scientists known for their national or international stature in the field of radiology.



Matthew Amans, MD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Neuroendovascular Surgery



Spencer Behr, MD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Abdominal Imaging
Molecular Imaging &
Therapeutics



Matthew Bucknor, MD, MFA
Professor In Residence
Musculoskeletal Imaging



Hailey Choi, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical
Radiology
Abdominal Imaging



Daniel Cooke, MD
Professor In Residence
Neuroendovascular Surgery



Jeremy Gordon, PhD
Associate Professor In Residence
Research



Jing Liu, PhD
Adjunct Professor
Research



Kevin McGill, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Clinical
Radiology
Musculoskeletal Imaging



John Mongan, MD, PhD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Abdominal Imaging



Michael Ohliger, MD, PhD
Professor In Residence
Abdominal Imaging



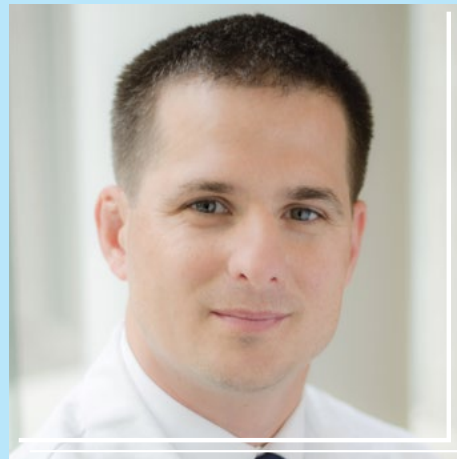
Eugene Ozhinsky, PhD
Associate Adjunct Professor
Research



Kimberly Ray, MD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Breast Imaging



Dorothy Shum, MD
HS Clinical Professor
Abdominal Imaging



Jason Talbott, MD, PhD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Emergency Radiology and
Neuroradiology



Andrew Taylor, MD, PhD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Interventional Radiology

Step 6 and Above Scale Promotions

Advancement to Step 6 and Above Scale are special milestones in the advancement process for full professors and are reviewed in similar depth as a promotion from one rank to the next.



Rita Freimanis, MD
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Step 6
Breast Imaging



Christine Glastonbury, MBBS
Professor of Clinical Radiology
Step 6
Neuroradiology



Nola Hylton, PhD
Professor
Above Scale
Research



Daniel Vigneron, PhD
Professor
Above Scale
Research

Outstanding Achievements

We congratulate four faculty members who received departmental awards at the June 2024 Commencement Ceremony. These awards honor faculty who demonstrate inspired teaching, clinical excellence, outstanding mentorship, and volunteer service.

In addition, the department honors an Outstanding Alumnus of our residency program.

Robert Barr, MD | Outstanding Alumnus

Presented to a graduate of the UCSF Department of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging residency program who has achieved a high level of professional accomplishment, who has provided outstanding service to the field of radiology through their leadership, and who has promoted the culture of our department through collaboration, professionalism and excellence. This year, Dr. Christopher Hess presented the award.

Dr. Barr completed his training at UCSF – medical school, residency, and neuroradiology fellowship – 30 years ago, and has been in private practice in North Carolina since then, developing a highly regarded reputation as a clinician, researcher, and thought leader in neuroradiology and the wider profession. There are many ways to be an outstanding alumnus and an outstanding radiologist, and Bob exemplifies so many facets of this. He has served in executive leadership roles for national professional societies and is a member of the Harvey L. Neiman Health Policy Institute of the American College of Radiology where he has played a key role in federal policy work on the radiology revenue cycle.

In his remarks upon receiving the award, Dr. Barr noted that “UCSF is a special place and has given me a career that I have loved. My time at UCSF still has immediate relevance to me, as I gather for an annual dinner at RSNA with some of my co-residents at RSNA. I still work with current and former faculty through the ABR, ACR, and ASNR, and several co-residents and co-fellows are still among my closest friends. You are an extraordinary group of people and I’ve spent my career trying to recreate something similar in my own practice that was inspired by my time here.”

His nominators made these comments:

“Bob has been a wonderful friend and supporter of UCSF over the years and is well-deserving of this recognition as an outstanding alumnus.”

“Despite a busy private practice, Dr. Barr has been president of the American Society of Neuroradiology (ASNR), past chair of the ASNR Health Policy Committee and ASNR Advisor to the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee. He currently serves as president of the American Board of Radiology Board of Governors.”





Jesse Courtier, MD | Hideyo Minagi Outstanding Teacher

Named in honor of emeritus faculty member Hideyo Minagi, MD, and presented by graduating residents since 1974, this award recognizes an outstanding faculty teacher who most exemplifies the commitment, enthusiasm & dedication to teaching demonstrated by Dr. Hideyo Minagi over his long UCSF career.

In his remarks upon presenting Dr. Courtier's award, senior resident Dr. Kevin Leu recalled their first meeting on July 1, 2020:

"The world was very different back then because of the pandemic. I stepped in the reading room on my first day with absolutely zero knowledge of radiology and kind welcome from Dr. Courtier. I distinctly remember reading out my very first elbow X-ray, which had a periosteal reaction, which is a term I had never heard. Jesse patiently explained basic elbow anatomy and how healing fractures appear on radiographs. Then he looked at my report. I don't remember exactly what I wrote. But what I can tell you with 100% certainty is that it was gibberish. Jesse read it and very kindly said, 'Okay, let's just change it a touch.' He had to change my entire report. But more importantly, I remember leaving with

a sense that I had learned about elbow anatomy, periosteal reaction, and gained a skill that I built upon over the years.

"Jesse's passion for education clearly shines. I have been challenged with numerous cases from his teaching files, cases tailored to the different levels of residents' expertise. After having taken hundreds of cases over the years, I finally asked him this year: 'Did I finish all your cases?' To my astonishment, he said, 'No, I still have 100 more cases!'

"Thanks to Jesse's efforts – his teaching file cases and many lectures – we feel that we have a firm grasp on pediatric radiology concepts today because of this outstanding teacher."

Rita Freimanis, MD | Clinical Faculty Excellence

The Clinical Faculty Excellence Award was established in 2021 to honor and celebrate our faculty who are distinguished by their dedication to clinical radiology, their superb skills in diagnostic and/or interventional radiology, and the exceptional care they provide to our patients. This honor is awarded annually. This year, Dr. Jane Wang made the award presentation.

Rita Freimanis, MD, is on the Breast Imaging faculty at ZSFG and she received nominations from within and outside the department for this award. She is described by colleagues and trainees as a physician with phenomenal clinical skills and exemplary commitment to her patients and colleagues. Upon receiving the award, Dr. Freimanis remarked, “Thank you to all my partners in breast imaging. You welcomed me here nine years ago. You taught me what I needed to know about how things get done around here and you became my friends because nobody does this alone, so it’s been my supreme pleasure. Thank you.”

Her nominators noted that –

“As a clinician, I strive to be like Rita Freimanis. She is the utmost professional who provides outstanding care to all her patients, including for our underserved populations. She is an amazing role model.”

“Rita is an outstanding radiologist who always goes above and beyond to provide excellent clinical service to her patients and colleagues. Her dedication to advancing the field of Radiology is demonstrated by her tireless commitment to the multi-institutional NIH supported TMIST trial for which she is the PI. She is also committed to advancing diversity, inclusion and equity as demonstrated by her achievement of recruiting the greatest number of diverse trial participants at ZSFGH. She is an excellent teacher and mentor and an even better human being. She brings a lifetime worth of clinical experience and lived wisdom to our section and I can always count on her for guidance.”

“Dr Freimanis leads the Avon Breast Center and the TMIST trial. She has shown incredible dedication to this international clinical trial and to serving the community. She is an incredible doctor and colleague.”





Bonnie Joe, MD, PhD | Outstanding Faculty Mentoring

Presented annually since 2015 to a faculty member who has provided extraordinary service to the department's faculty through mentorship. This year, Dr. Christine Glastonbury presented the award.

Dr. Joe is distinguished by her commitment and selflessness in fostering the careers of junior colleagues and building on the extraordinary excellence of UCSF. In her two decades at UCSF, Dr. Joe consistently goes above and beyond to support her mentees, with kindness and devotion to their academic success.

One nominator remarked that “I am thrilled to nominate Bonnie Joe for the mentoring award. As an exceptional faculty mentor, Bonnie supports her mentees with tireless encouragement and guidance in navigating job opportunities, research, promotion, and grants. Bonnie has been instrumental in my research endeavors, always making time for me to share ideas with her, answer questions about methods, review my papers and grants, and provide insight into research directions.”

Another nominator noted that “At conferences, Dr. Joe is always looking out for her many mentees from across the country, actively seeking opportunities to connect her mentees with the right people and resources to propel them towards their goals. Bonnie embodies the true essence of mentorship. Her impact extends far beyond the academic realm, touching the lives of those fortunate enough to benefit from her kindness, guidance, and support.”

In her remarks on receiving the award, Dr. Joe noted, “I love our residents and trainees, and if someone has a question or an issue I want to help if I can. I learned this from my own mentors and sponsors, many of whom are in the room tonight, and who are also my colleagues and friends. I’m really just trying to pay forward and honor the support of my own mentors over the years, and I ask that you all do the same. Thank you very much.”

Mark Mamlouk, MD | Outstanding Volunteer Clinical Faculty

We value our volunteer radiologists, who provide invaluable clinical care and education as expert members of our academic community. Since 1977 our department has conferred an annual award for outstanding volunteer clinical service. This year, Dr. Vinil Shah made the award presentation.

Dr. Mamlouk is a 2015 graduate of the UCSF neuroradiology fellowship, where he served as chief fellow. He works in a busy practice at Kaiser Santa Clara where is the regional neuroradiology lead and director of the CSF leak program. He also regularly volunteers with our neuroradiology division, where he teaches residents and fellows, reads complex clinical cases, and participates in interdisciplinary conferences such as Birthmarks and Vascular Anomalies. He has remained academically engaged, publishes widely on many topics and is in leadership positions with many academic societies including the Board of Directors for the American Society of Pediatric Neuroradiology. Dr. Mamlouk is an amazing all-round, neuroradiologist as well as a friend and support of UCSF.

Dr. Mamlouk's nominators noted that he is an "Amazing teacher, a highly motivated and engaged volunteer clinical faculty who loves coming to UCSF to teach, read clinical cases, and participate in conferences including the BVAC conference."

"He has been exceptionally productive academically while at Kaiser, often collaborating with UCSF faculty on projects, and is a leader in multiple societies including ASNR, ASHNR, ASSR, and ASPNR."

"Dr. Mamlouk is an outstanding neuroradiologist who is an extremely motivated and engaged volunteer clinical faculty."

"Mark is a superb physician, educator and continues to be a scholar, publishing several seminal articles in our literature on CSF leak detection and treatment."



Farewell & Thank you

To our faculty members who officially retired during the 2023-24 academic year, we extend our congratulations for their accomplishments over the decades. We are delighted to thank and honor them here, for their service to patients, trainees, our department, and the wider radiology community.



William Dillon, MD
Professor Emeritus
Neuroradiology

Dr. Dillon is the Elizabeth A. Guillaumin Professor of Radiology, Executive Vice-Chair in the Department of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging, and Executive Medical Director for Ambulatory Imaging for UCSF Health. Dr. Dillon received his medical degree from UCLA and completed his residency at the University of Utah, followed by a neuroradiology fellowship at UCSF. He joined the UCSF Radiology faculty in 1983, serving as chief of the neuroradiology section at the VA (1983-1986) and chief of neuroradiology at UCSF (1992-2015). As a LEAN-trained physician, Dr. Dillon has contributed to department efforts focused on improving patient experience, financial growth, and efficiency. His clinical and research interests include imaging of the head and neck, spinal pain management, stroke imaging, vascular diseases of the brain, and imaging of brain tumors. He is a co-founder of a non-profit, Health4theWorld.org whose mission is to provide free education to the world's health care providers via real time and archived zoom lectures, archived course material, as well as providing humanitarian aid.

Dr. Dillon is past president of the American Society of Head and Neck Radiology and Gold Medalist in 2008, and past president of the American Society of Neuroradiology and Gold Medalist in 2015. He was a senior editor for the American Journal of Neuroradiology (1998-2011) and has been a co-investigator in 25 funded projects and 10 clinical trials. He has published 300+ articles and 30+ book chapters.

Over the years, Dr. Dillon has been recognized with the department's Outstanding Faculty Mentoring Award (2016); the 1993 Francis A. Sooy, MD teaching award for Clinical Excellence from the UCSF Department of Otolaryngology; and the 2011 J. Elliott Royer award for contributions to clinical neurology. He was also the recipient of the 2014 Outstanding Researcher Award from the American Society of Neuroradiology. He has been elected as one of the Best Doctors of America every year since 1995.

Lori M. Strachowski, MD

Professor Emeritus

Radiology and Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences ZSFG

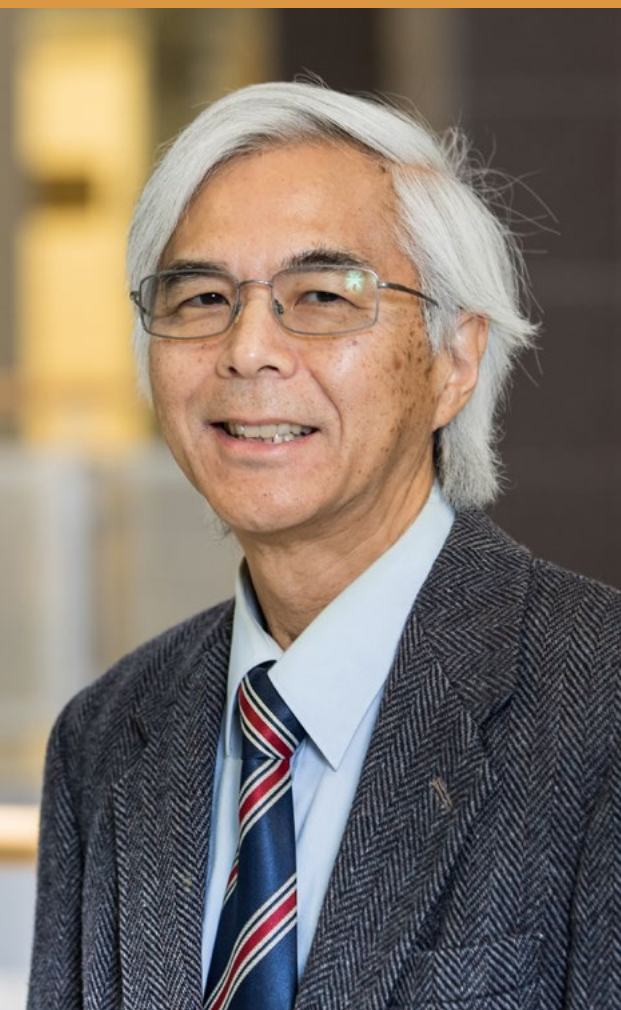
Dr. Strachowski earned her medical degree from Rush Medical School, followed by residency in diagnostic radiology at Stanford and a fellowship in diagnostic ultrasound at UCSF. She joined the UCSF faculty in 1998. Dr. Strachowski's concurrent leadership roles at ZSFG included Chief of Ultrasound, Chief of Breast Imaging, and Medical Director of the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center, which she co-founded.

At the Avon Center, Dr. Strachowski promoted high-quality and comprehensive services for women including genetic counseling and testing; education and outreach programs; and bilingual patient navigators to assure that every patient felt supported and empowered despite perceived cultural and linguistic differences. In 2006, Dr. Strachowski was instrumental in bringing the Mobile Mammography Van program to the Community Health Network of San Francisco. In 2010, she instituted a Breast MRI and MRI guided breast biopsy program to complete ZSFG's spectrum of comprehensive breast imaging services.

Dr. Strachowski helped institute a Nuchal Translucency Screening Program at ZSFG for first trimester genetics screening and prenatal management for patients with complex fetal anomalies and complications of pregnancy. With a hands-on ultrasound philosophy, Dr. Strachowski frequently scanned patients herself, fervently promoting the same practice for residents and fellows. Over the years, she has strongly promoted radiologists' expertise in obstetrical ultrasound by upholding the highest clinical standards, emphasizing compassionate and timely patient care, and providing enthusiastic teaching.

She has been recognized for her many contributions to clinical care and training over the years. At UCSF, she received the 2009 Excellence in Teaching Award from Haile T. Debas Academy of Medical Educators, the 2012 Hideyo Minagi Teacher of the Year Award from the Department of Radiology, the Outstanding Women's Health Consultant of the Year Award from the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences in 2014, 2018, and 2020. In 2019 she received the Anna S. Lev-Toaff Award from the Society of Radiology in Ultrasound.





Randall Higashida, MD

Professor Emeritus

Neurointerventional Radiology

Dr. Higashida earned his medical degree from the School of Medicine at Tulane University in New Orleans in 1980 and completed his residency and fellowship training at UCLA Medical Center in 1984. He joined the UCSF faculty in 1986 and served as Chief of Interventional Neurovascular Radiology from 1996-2022. Concurrently, Dr. Higashida is also Professor, Neurological Surgery, Neurology, and Anesthesiology at UCSF, and a faculty member at ZSFG and the San Francisco VA Medical Center. He specializes in minimally invasive treatment of complex cerebrovascular diseases and stroke.

Dr. Higashida developed one of the first intracranial stents for aneurysm treatment and UCSF pioneered the use of stents in patients with aneurysms that otherwise could not be treated endovascularly. He is a leading intellect in the ischemic stroke sphere, helping to develop the TICI scale by which success in intracranial revascularization is measured and leading some of the first trials for intra-arterial lytic agents in stroke treatment. He has trained numerous clinical fellows who have gone on to succeed him as presidents of the prestigious Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS). His NIR trainees have founded and led many of the most highly regarded neurointerventional clinical programs around the world in the last three decades. He remains among the most highly sought-after opinion leaders in NIR worldwide. His basic science research studies new and innovative techniques to treat a variety of neurovascular disorders including aneurysms, vascular malformations, tumors, and vasospasm in animal models and in clinical practice.

A prolific scholar, Dr. Higashida has published more than 300 scientific articles on stroke and related topics, and is the author of more than 120 book chapters. His articles have appeared in the New England Journal of Medicine, Stroke, American Journal of Neuroradiology, Journal of Neurosurgery, Journal of Endovascular Surgery, Lancet, Neurology, and the Journal of the American Medical Association. He is on 10 scientific editorial boards and serves as a manuscript reviewer for 9 additional journals.



Fisherman's Wharf

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Omar Hassan, MD
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Nandan Keshav, MD
Marc Kohli, MD
Joseph Leach, MD, PhD
John Mongan, MD, PhD
Liina Poder, MD
Dorothy Shum, MD
Derek Sun, MD
Kang Wang, MD, PhD
Emma Webb, MD
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Benjamin Yeh, MD

Breast Imaging

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Heather Greenwood, MD
Jessica Hayward, MD
Tatiana Kelil, MD
Amie Lee, MD
Elissa Price, MD
Kimberly Ray, MD
Edward Sickles, MD

Cardiac & Pulmonary Imaging

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Jonathan Liu, MD
Jae Ho Sohn, MD, MS
Shravan Sridhar, MD
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ER/Acute Care

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Masis Isikbay, MD
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Grant Gullberg, PhD
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Nola Hylton, PhD
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Van Halbach, MD
Kazim Narsinh, MD

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Javier Villanueva-Meyer, MD
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Pediatric Radiology

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Department of Radiology
and Biomedical Imaging

Academic Affairs

