



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, Jr. M.D., President Elect Western Vascular Society



Dear Friends in Western,

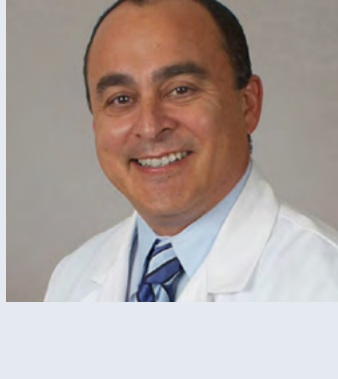
It is my honor to be the editor of the True Lumen Newsletter for this year! I expect that the bulk of the content will come from you our fine members. Be sure to send wvs@surgicalcs.com your institutional updates, photos, job openings, fun facts and promotional celebrations.

Have you submitted an abstract, sponsored a paper or a new member lately? It is my hope you enjoy each of these privileges of membership. In this edition of the newsletter we will feature the work of Dr. Christian Ochoa and the membership committee.

Keep your eyes out for the latest in Western Vascular Society Annual Meeting planning from the Program Chair Dr. Jade Hiramoto. Abstract submissions close on April 15th for new submissions. Program Committee meets May 19th in person at the San Francisco, Airport Marriott to make their final selections. Authors will be notified by June 8th. Dr. Jeniann Yi is the Local Arrangements Chair and will be excited to give us a Colorado welcome September 7-10, 2024 as we return to the majestic Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Christian Ochoa, MD



Dear Members,

I am pleased to provide you with an academic update on the endeavors of our esteemed membership committee during the current year. We commenced our activities with great enthusiasm and have since devoted significant efforts to augmenting our membership constituency.

It brings me immense satisfaction to report that our distinguished committee members, Dr. Malmoud Malas representing UC San Diego, and Dr. Juan Carlos Jimenez hailing from UCLA, have embarked on concerted efforts to expand our membership base.

As you may recall, we have undertaken revisions to our membership criteria, affording the opportunity for surgeons who have not previously attended our meetings to submit applications. This strategic modification underscores our commitment to fostering inclusivity and ensuring accessibility to the Western Vascular Society for all vascular surgeons within our geographic purview. Furthermore, the introduction of the candidate membership category marks a pivotal enhancement, and we eagerly anticipate the

initiation of the inaugural cohort of candidate members, subject to membership vote during the forthcoming business meeting scheduled for September 9, 2024. Additionally, we shall ceremoniously present certificates of membership to the 41 newly elected members from the preceding year.

Should you harbor any inquiries pertaining to membership matters, I cordially invite you to direct your correspondence to me directly. It would be my utmost pleasure to address any queries or concerns that may arise.

In conclusion, I implore you to disseminate our membership application link amongst your acquaintances and professional networks, thereby extending the invitation to partake in the camaraderie and manifold benefits associated with membership in our esteemed society. We welcome all individuals who share our fervent dedication to the field of vascular surgery.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and eagerly anticipate the opportunity to engage with you further in due course.

BE SURE TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT IN THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE FOUNDERS AWARD OF \$1000 AND A PLAQUE!

FOSTERING THE FUTURE OF VASCULAR SURGERY THROUGH MENTORSHIP AND INCLUSION

Gregory Magee, VSIG Committee Chair

Dear VSIG Members,

As we continue to pave the way for excellence in vascular surgery, it is crucial that we invest in the next generation of leaders and innovators in our field. One of the most effective ways to achieve this is by actively feeding the pipeline with talented individuals who show promise and dedication to vascular surgery. With this goal in mind, I am thrilled to announce an expansion of this initiative aimed at expanding our reach and impact within the medical community: the inclusion of funded general surgery residents at our annual meeting.

Recognizing the importance of mentorship and the invaluable contributions of youth, we are offering scholarships of \$2000 each to selected medical students and general surgery residents to attend our upcoming annual meeting. By providing financial

support, we aim to remove barriers and ensure that passionate individuals have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the dynamic world of vascular surgery.

This initiative serves multiple purposes. Firstly, it allows us to identify and nurture young talent who may be considering a career in vascular surgery. By exposing them to the latest advancements, cutting-edge research, and networking opportunities at our annual meeting, we can inspire and guide them towards a path in vascular surgery.

Secondly, by including medical students and general surgery residents in our events, we foster a culture of mentorship and collaboration within our community. Established vascular surgeons have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share, and by engaging with these emerging professionals, we can pass on valuable

insights and wisdom that will shape their future careers.

Moreover, this initiative aligns with our commitment to diversity and inclusivity within the field of vascular surgery. By actively seeking out individuals from varied backgrounds and experiences, we enrich our community and ensure that our profession reflects the diverse patient populations we serve.

I encourage all members of VSIG to support this initiative by nominating deserving candidates for the funded scholarships and by actively engaging with these individuals during the annual meeting. Together, we can cultivate the next generation of vascular surgeons and propel our field to new heights of excellence.

Thank you for your continued dedication to advancing vascular surgery, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming annual meeting.

Warm regards,

Gregory Magee, MD MSc FACS FSVS Chair, VSIG Committee

GREAT NEWS OF THE DAY! There is a baby boom going on at University of Washington!



We congratulate Dr. Sara Zettervall and her husband on the arrival of Jackson "Jack" Zettervall Domagalla.



Dr. Kirsten D. Dansey also shared this adorable image of her bundle of joy!



The latest arrival reported is to Dr. and Mrs. Matthew Sweet who have welcomed a new baby Charlie Sweet.



Dr. Misty Humphries now President of VESS!

Calling for the True Lumen Summer Edition of member content. The prompts is...my best day at work. Please have submissions by July 1 to heather@surgicalcs.com

TRIBUTE TO PAST PRESIDENT DR. RALPH DILLEY (1999)

PASSED ON THIS WINTER IN CALIFORNIA.



Dr. Ralph B. Dilley, MD, born in Los Angeles and educated in San Diego, California, attained his undergraduate and medical degrees

from Stanford University. Ranking first in his medical school class, he garnered highest honors and served as President of the local chapter of AOA. Following a medical internship at the Boston City Hospital, he completed surgical training in both general and thoracic surgery at UCLA, becoming board certified in both specialties.

After military service in Vietnam, Dr. Dilley pursued research at UCSF before joining the faculty at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine. There, he established a prolific research laboratory focused on collateral circulation physiology, securing numerous NIH grants.

In 1979, he became Chief of Vascular Surgery at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, later assuming the role of Chief of Surgery until his retirement in 2015.

Dr. Dilley authored over 100 peer-reviewed papers and established a renowned Fellowship in vascular surgery, training numerous fellows alongside esteemed colleagues. As President Roy Fujitani reflects, "Dr. Dilley was the consummate born educator who after an illustrious career

in vascular surgery volunteered to teach science to high school students."

Throughout his career, Dr. Dilley held leadership positions in various local and national surgical societies, including

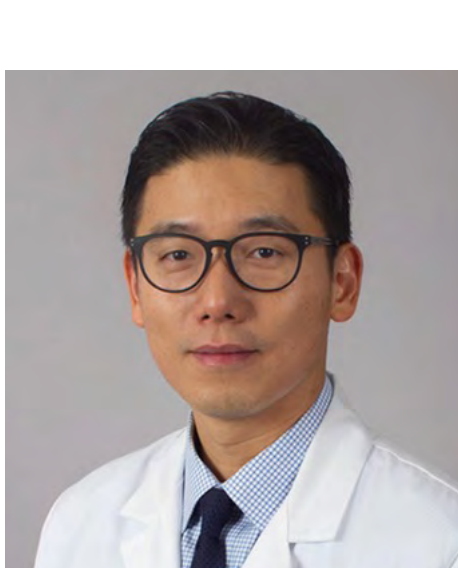
presidencies of the San Diego Surgical Society, Southern California Vascular Surgery Society, Southern California

chapter of the American College of Surgeons, and the Western Vascular Society. He was also actively involved in the Pacific Coast Surgical Association and the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, earning recognition as a distinguished Fellow in the Society for Vascular Surgery.

Western Vascular Society Historian Dr. R. Gene Zierler confirmed that there will be a tribute to Dr. Dilley at the 39th Western Vascular Society Business Meeting.

"Dr. Dilley was the consummate born educator who after an illustrious career in vascular surgery volunteered to teach science to high school students."

Dr. Roy Fujitani



Sukgu Han, MD

Congratulations to Dr. Sukgu Han in his new role as Chief!

Checking out the good over at West does not mean that Western Past President Dr. Weaver is retiring! He stepped down as chief of the Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy Program to become Keck Medicine's associate chief clinical officer for surgical and procedural operations.



Fred A. Weaver, MD

AD HOC COMMITTEES

President Roy Fujitani has made a significant impact on the council by introducing three new ad hoc committees. These include the Finance Committee, which comprises Dr. Ali Azizzadeh from Cedar Sinai, Dr. Anthony Chau from UC Irvine, and Dr. LeAnn Chavez, alongside Dr. Jason Lee, who serves as Secretary Treasurer. This newly formed committee is entrusted with responsibilities encompassing budget management, audit oversight, and fostering relations with industry partners and sponsors.

Under the leadership of Chair Dr. Leigh Ann O'Banion, the Communications Committee is embarking on a mission to enhance the social media presence and branding of the Western Vascular Society. Collaborating closely with committee members Dr. Shipra Arya and Dr. Shahram Aarabi, Dr. O'Banion is spearheading efforts to revamp the handles and hashtags associated with the Western Vascular Society brand, aiming for greater visibility and engagement across platforms.

As part of this initiative, we encourage you to follow @WestVascular on X, LinkedIn, and Instagram to stay updated on the latest news, events, and insights from the society. Additionally, the Communications Committee invites members to contribute their successes and achievements for potential reposting. If you prefer to remain anonymous, you can share your victories with heather@surgicalcs.com, and we'll ensure they receive the recognition they deserve.

Join us in supporting the Communications Committee as they work tirelessly to elevate the Western Vascular Society's presence in the digital landscape. Let's amplify our collective voice and celebrate the remarkable contributions of our members together.

The Bylaw Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Matthew Sweet and committee member Dr. Mark Morasch, and Dr. Benjamin Starnes ex officio member are primed to uphold the foundational constitution of the Western Vascular

Society. This dedicated team is prepared to provide guidance and address any inquiries or concerns regarding the recently revised Western Vascular Society Bylaws.

Dr. Sweet and Dr. Morasch, alongside the Overseight of the Esteemed Dr. Benjamin Starnes, the OG bylaw reviewer, are committed to ensuring clarity, coherence, and adherence to the principles outlined within the society's governing documents.

As we navigate the modern intricacies of our organizational structure and operational frameworks, the Bylaw Committee stands ready to serve as a valuable resource, safeguarding the integrity and strength of our constitution.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Bylaw Committee with any questions or clarifications regarding the Western Vascular Society Bylaws. Together, we will uphold the values and principles that underpin our society's mission and vision.



Call for Member Contributions

Please email heather@surgicalcs.com your OR photos, stories of patient success or research victory. You can also nominate a colleague for the Member Feature, or just send us your ideas!



WESTERN VASCULAR SOCIETY 2024 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President ROY M. FUJITANI, MD

Secretary-Treasurer JASON LEE, MD, FACS HMED

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair KENNETH ZIEGLER, MD, FACS

President Elect AHMED ABOU-ZAMZAM, JR., MD, FACS

Recorder NITEN SINGH, MD

Vascular Surgery Interest Group Chair GREGORY MAGEE, MD, MSc

Past Presidents WEI ZHOU, MD, FACS VINCENT ROWE, MD MICHAEL CONTE, MD

Historian EUGENE ZIERLER, MD

Program Chair JADE HIRAMOTO, MD

Membership Chair CHRISTIAN OCHOA, MD

MISSION

The Western Vascular Society promotes and leadership in the art and science of compassionate vascular health in the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim.

VISION

The Western Vascular Society (WVS) seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health through education, research, public awareness and advocacy. WVS membership is recognized in the vascular communities of the Western United States, Canada and the Pacific Rim as a mark of the highest professional achievement. WVS seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health.

VALUES

Education | Research | Public Awareness | Advocacy | Career Development | Diversity