



**WESTERN
VASCULAR
SOCIETY**

THE TRUE LUMEN

FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER

Editor: Niten Singh, M.D., President-Elect WVS

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Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pride that I write to you as the new President - Elect and Editor of the True Lumen of the Western Vascular Society. Our recent 2025 Annual Meeting celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the WVS in beautiful Ojai, California, was a tremendous success. I would like to thank the outstanding efforts of our President Dr. Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, the program committee, presenters, and attendees. The scientific program reflected the exceptional clinical and academic strength that defines our Society.

Highlights from the 2025 Meeting in Ojai:

- Record attendance and vibrant participation from trainees and faculty across our region.
- Excellent podium and poster sessions showcasing innovation in vascular surgery research and clinical care.
- Outstanding historical presentation from the WVS historian, Dr. Gene Zierler and two of the founding WVS members, Dr. Jerry Goldstone and Dr. Wesley Moore.
- A unique presentation on the history of the Annals of Vascular Surgery cover art by invited guest, Dr. Timothy Sullivan.
- Memorable social events that fostered collegiality and lifelong friendships—hallmarks of our Society.

In this edition of the True Lumen we highlight the leadership of our **Canadian members**, who will be hosting the **2026 Annual Meeting in Whistler, British Columbia**, next September. This promises to be an unforgettable gathering—combining world-class scientific exchange with the breathtaking setting of Whistler's alpine landscape.

- A detailed summary of the 2025 Ojai meeting proceedings and award winners
- Updates from the Executive Council and committee reports
- Announcements regarding upcoming educational opportunities and regional collaborations
- A preview of plans for the Whistler 2026 meeting

As we move forward, my goal is to continue strengthening our community—bridging academic and clinical practice, mentoring the next generation of vascular surgeons, and expanding our collaboration across the Western region and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support of the Western Vascular Society. I look forward to working with all of you in the year ahead as we build upon our proud tradition of excellence, scholarship, and camaraderie.



With warm regards,

Niten Singh, MD, FACS

President-Elect, Western Vascular Society
University of Washington



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Welcome Our New Executive Council



President:

David Rigberg



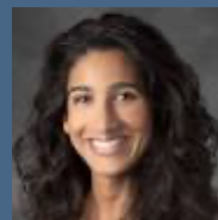
President-Elect:

Niten Singh



Secretary Treasurer:

Jason Lee



Recorder:

Venita Chandra



Historian:

Gene Zierler



Program Chair:

Benjamin Brooke



CCC Chair:

Sherene Shalhub



Membership Chair:

Juan Carlos Jimenez



VSIG Chair:

Nikhil Kansal



Past President:

Ahmed Abou-Zamzam



Past President:

Roy M. Fujitani



Past President:

Wei Zhou



WVS Secretary-Treasurer-Elect: Misty Humphries

This new role was created to best prepare the incoming member to take over the duties of the secretary-treasurer, by participating in a year-long shadowing period to ensure a smooth transition.



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Welcome Our New Members!

New ACTIVE Members:

Lisa Bennett, MD, Denver Health

Peter Brant-Zawadzki, MD, Providence North Everett

Ghaleb Darwazeh, MD, Loma Linda University

Siwei Dong, DO, University of California Irvine

William Duong, MD, Loma Linda University Health

Sammy Eghbalieh, MD, SoCal. Multispecialty Center

Justin Galovich, MD, Hawaii Permanente Med. Group

Elizabeth George, MD, Stanford University

Ashley Gutwein, MD, University of Colorado

Lily Johnston, MD, Scripps Memorial Hospital

Mitri Khoury, MD, HonorHealth Heart Care

Sarah Koch, MD, Pulse Heart Institute

Harish Krishnamoorthi, MD, OHSU

Derek Nathan, MD, University of Washington/VA

Gonzalo Obnial, MD, Bass Medical Group

Ramola Panchal, MD, Loma Linda University

Rhusheet Patel, MD, OHSU

Margaret Smith, MD, University of Colorado

Kenneth Tran, MD, Stanford University

M. Libby Weaver, MD, University of Utah

New CANDIDATE Members:

Ahmed Abdelkarim, MD, UC San Diego

Christian Campat, DO, UCSF Fresno

Anand Ganapathy, MD, University of Southern California

Mohammed Hamouda, MD, UC San Diego

Pooria Nakhaei, MD, UC San Diego

Lucas Phi, DO, University of Oklahoma

Vanessa Pohl, MD, Rutgers Health

Agustin Sibona, MD, UC San Diego

Armin Tabiei, MD, University of California Los Angeles

Narek Veranyan, MD, UC San Diego Health

Karissa Wang, MD, University of Washington

Sina Zarrintan, MD, UC San Diego





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Founders Award Winner

↳ **Modern Management and Outcomes of Penetrating Upper Extremity Arterial Injuries at a Level I Trauma Center**

Nicolas A. Stafforini, MD, Louis Darkwa, MD, Nam Tran, MD, Benjamin Starnes, MD, Elina Quiroga, MD, MPH, Niten Singh, MD, Jake Hemingway, MD

Division of Vascular Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Senior Author: Jake Hemingway, MD, University of Washington



WVS Resident Showdown Competition Winners



First Place: Emelyn Magtanong

Second Place: Christian Campat

Third Place (Tie): Devra Asah and Tony Gu

Top Scoring Resident, Emelyn Magtanong from Loma Linda University, will receive \$1500 towards a scholarship to attend, compete and represent the Western Vascular Society at the Top Gun SCVS National Resident Competition

**Society for Clinical
Vascular Surgery**

SCVS.ORG

Mar 28 – Apr 1, 2026

Gaylord Pacific Hotel,
San Diego, CA

Rapid-Fire Competition Winner

↳ Vascular Surgery Residents and Fellows Graduate at Higher Levels of Proficiency in Endovascular as Compared to Open Aortic Operations

Presenter: Libby Weaver, MD, University of Utah





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Robert Hye Memorial Competition Winners

↳ **1st PLACE: VALIDATION OF THE SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR SURGERY
APPROPRIATE USE CRITERIA FOR MANAGEMENT OF INTERMITTENT
CLAUDICATION**

Christine Mavilian, BS, MS¹, Alejandro Vega BS, MPH¹, Olamide Alabi MD, MS², Shipra Arya MD, MS³, Benjamin S. Brooke, MD, PhD⁴, Cassidy Chester, BS⁴, Micheal S. Conte, MD⁵, Arash Fereydooni MD, MS, MHS³, Elizabeth L George, MD, MS³, James Iannuzzi, MD, MPH⁵, Loay Kabbani, MD⁶, Mina Han Lee, MD⁷, Brandi Mize, MD², Tiffany M Nguyen, MD⁶, Maria Tiu, BS, MS⁵, Karen Woo, MD, PhD¹, Leigh Ann O'Banion, MD⁷

¹University of California, Los Angeles

²Emory University School of Medicine

³Stanford University School of Medicine

⁴University of Utah Health

⁵University of California San Francisco

⁶Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI

⁷University of California San Francisco-Fresno

↳ **2nd PLACE TIE**

Vessel Level Comparative Analysis Of 5 Year Renal Branch Performance Following Fenestrated Branched Endovascular Aortic Repair Using Thoracoabdominal Multibranched Endoprotheses and Physician Modified Endografts

Zachary Rengel, MD, USC

↳ **2nd PLACE TIE**

The Association Between Multimorbidity and Arteriovenous Fistula Creation Outcomes

Jose Luis Lopez, MD, UCLA

↳ **3rd PLACE TIE**

Improving Discharge Opioid Prescriptions Following Elective Vascular Surgery Procedures Using Patient-Specific Data

Colleen P. Flanagan, MD, UCSF

↳ **3rd PLACE TIE**

Impact of Lumen Origin and Gap Distance on Target Artery Outcomes Following Fenestrated-Branched Endovascular Aortic Repair for Post-dissection Thoracoabdominal Aortic Aneurysms

Armin Tabiei, MD, UCLA



DR. ROBERT HYE MEMORIAL COMPETITION

To honor the contribution of member Dr. Robert Hye, each year the Western Vascular Society Program Chair elects judges to evaluate the best full and rapid-fire presentation by a medical student or resident. These monetary awards are funded by donations from the members and sponsors, and we are grateful for your support and generosity.



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SPOTLIGHT ON OUR CANADIAN MEMBERS

Vascular research in Canada stands apart for its connection to real-world practice and the realities of our vast and varied country. From coast to coast, Canadian investigators work across diverse patient populations, regional resource differences, and expansive geography—producing studies that marry rigorous methodology with practical clinical insight.

Recent work illustrates this strength. A **meta-analysis comparing endovascular and open revascularization** revisits a long-standing debate in limb preservation, grounding its conclusions in the realities of Canadian practice. Likewise, a **study examining the underuse of cardiovascular risk-modification therapies** among patients with chronic limb-threatening ischemia exposes a critical gap in care delivery.

Even as revascularization techniques advance, many patients across Canada remain undertreated when it comes to basic cardioprotective therapies. These findings reinforce a vital message: that progress in vascular surgery must include system-level improvements ensuring every Canadian patient receives comprehensive, equitable vascular care.

Impact of Vascular Resident Involvement on Operative Variables and Outcomes in Endovascular Aneurysm Repair

[Nicholas Reitsma, BHK^a](#) — · [Sally H.J. Choi, MD^b](#) · [Gary K. Yang, PhD, MD^{b,c}](#)

Dr. Gary Yang of Kelowna, listed senior author above, is a member of Western Vascular Society.

Check the article published by UBC team [https://www.jvsvi.org/article/S2949-9127\(25\)00047-9/fulltext](https://www.jvsvi.org/article/S2949-9127(25)00047-9/fulltext)

Did you know Thomas Forbes, MD, FRCSC, FACS, DFSVS is one of two honorary members of Western Vascular Society?

"Evolution of the Vascular Specialist" is one of the best Presidential Guest Lecturers of all time! Watch Dr. Forbes as invited by President Dr. York Hsiang in 2019. Great talks don't have a shelf life ...

CLICK TO WATCH



Dr. Thomas L. Forbes giving the SVS Update in Kauai



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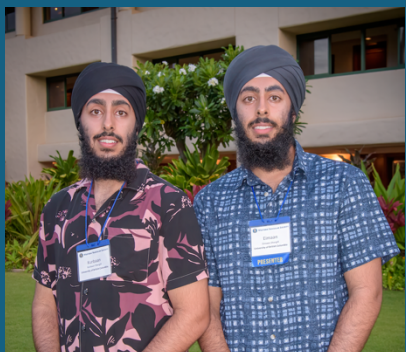
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The Pacific Northwest Vascular Society Past Presidents dinner at the Arctic Club, Seattle, WA was a highlight for our editor this fall!



Left to right (Drs. Nam Tran, Enjae Jung, Gene Zierler, Niten Singh, Stephen Murray, Kai Johanson, Glen Rosebrough and Brian Ferris)



Shergill Brothers, both from UBC, are regular attendees or presenters at WVS meetings in the US and Canada



PNWVS President Dr. David Kopriva from Regina awards **Cedric Kamani** from UBC who won the best resident competition at PNWVS was also a VSIG winner who attended WVS 2025 in Ojai, CA



Dr. Sally Choi and **Dr. Nicholas Reitsma**, both from UBC, competing in the WVS Distal Bypass Competition



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SAVE THE DATE

41st Western Vascular Society Annual Meeting

September 26-29, 2026

Fairmont Chateau Whistler, BC, Canada



CONTACT US

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