

# UCSF GeriNews

A multi-campus division

February 14th 2025



**UCSF** Division of Geriatrics  
Department of Medicine



**ZUCKERBERG**  
SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL  
Hospital and Trauma Center



This week we are excited to welcome **Dr. Pete Curran** to the UCSF Division of Geriatrics faculty starting on February 10, 2025.

Dr. Curran will be joining our clinician educator faculty and will serve as Medical Director of the San Francisco VA Health Care System's Home Based Primary Care program, which cares for veterans living in San Francisco, Oakland, and multiple Northern California communities.

[Learn more about Dr. Curran](#)



Alexander Smith, MD, MPH, MS received the [Award for Excellence in Scientific Research in Palliative Care](#) at the Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Medicine in Denver, on Saturday February 8th. Naturally, Dr. Smith made the audience sing along during his acceptance speech, which you can view online [here](#).



Alexandra Lee, PhD, MSPH, James Deardorff, MD, and Sei Lee, MD, MAS were recently selected as the inaugural recipients of the SFCJL Research Scholars program. As part of this program, they will be working to enhance research opportunities at the [San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living](#) (formerly known as "The Jewish Home"), and Dr. Lee will become interim director for research at the SFCJL. Congratulations to all three!



Janice Schwartz, MD, along with UCLA colleagues Mimi Tarn and Ruey-Ying Liu (now back in Taiwan) and PCORI partner T. Pun, published the results of their focus group study on attitudes toward clinical trials among older Asian Americans of Chinese descent. Their paper, titled *Navigating the Path to Inclusion: Understanding Barriers and Facilitators to Clinical Trial Participation Among Older Asian-Chinese Adults with Multimorbidity*, was published in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.



Our colleague Paula (Vercudia) Sison is featured in [Cuckoo Edible Magic](#), a new SFBATCO production celebrating Chamorro cuisine and culture! Learn more about the show and its delicious inspiration in this [SF Chronicle](#) article.

Purchase your show tickets [here](#).

Actors Dom Refuerzo, left, and Paula Vercudia do a cheers before taking their first bite of tinaktak at Prubechu in San Francisco on Friday, Feb. 7, 2025.  
Photo: Dan Hernandez/The Chronicle



Thank you to all those who attended the Division's screening of **DO I NEED THIS?** on Thursday, 2/13. Special thank you to **Drs. Rebecca Conant, Elena Portacolone,** and **Susan Schneider** for serving as panelists for a lively discussion following the screening!



## Rose Delivery to Care at Home Patients

Thank you to the 15 Division volunteers who signed up to deliver roses to nearly 40 home-bound Care at Home patients across San Francisco in celebration of Valentine's Day! Special thanks to: Abi Ayong, Becki Conant, James Darby, Deepa Dharmarajan, Landon Haller, Mike Harper, Julia Harris, Crystal Kang, Candace Kim, Lisa Li, Niousha Moini, Jaime Rosenthal, Susan Schneider, Danielle Taylor, and Louise Walter. Thank you to Melody Luo for her help passing out roses to patients at the Acute Care for Elders Unit as well.

# SAVE *the* DATE

## California Academic Geriatrics Institutions Conference

**MAY 30, 2025**

University of California, Irvine



JOIN US FOR THIS ONE-DAY ACADEMIC EVENT THAT PROVIDES A COLLEGIAL ENVIRONMENT FOR GERIATRICS HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN CALIFORNIA TO NETWORK IN PERSON AND SHARE THEIR WORK.

ABSTRACTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR POSTERS AND SELECTED ORAL PRESENTATIONS AT THE MEETING THROUGH APRIL 1ST. MORE DETAILS COMING SOON.

This event is organized and sponsored by:



Todd James, MD and Susan Schneider, MD, MSPH are helping to coordinate the [2025 California Academic Geriatrics Institutions \(CAGI\) Conference](#), taking place on May 30, 2025, at the University of California, Irvine. This one-day event offers a valuable opportunity for geriatrics healthcare professionals across California to connect, collaborate, and share their work in a supportive, in-person setting. Save the date—we look forward to seeing you there!



[Plenary Abstracts at AAHPM/HPNA: Yael Schenker, Na Ouyang, Marie Bakitas](#)

[Visit the GeriPal Blog](#)

## GERIATRIC & PALLIATIVE MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS



[Ken Covinsky, MD, MPH](#)

Professor of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics,  
University of California, San Francisco

***Ageism in Health Care: Under Treatment, Over Treatment, or All of the Above?***

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Location: HSW-300 and via Zoom

[Register here](#)

[View Past Grand Rounds Recordings](#)

## GRATITUDE

This Gratitude section is an opportunity for us to post thank-you/gratitude messages to each other. Please email your gratitude posts to [Caroline.Ziesmer@ucsf.edu](mailto:Caroline.Ziesmer@ucsf.edu) to include in future newsletters.



Todd,

Thank you so much for your help this past week/weekend for our patient on Med Team F! Your time, patience, inviting our medical student to see the patient with you and supporting their learning, teaching for our team, and support for our patient were so helpful and appreciated!

- Anoop Muniyappa



Robbie,

Thank you for being patient and a team player in our Caring Wisely team. You've been an awesome person to work with so far. We've accomplished a lot, and I can't wait to see the impact of our work. I couldn't have managed this project without your expertise and knowledge!

- Melody Luo

## GERI BLUESKY POST OF THE WEEK

“

New publication by Sarah Nouri explores disparities in virtual vs. in-person outpatient palliative care, focusing on language and race. Read the [full study here](#).

”

- **Rebecca Sudore** @prepareforcare.bsky.social

## LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



## Nominate staff for STAR Achievement Award!

Recognize and celebrate the exceptional contributions of UCSF School of Medicine staff by submitting a STAR Achievement Award nomination by April 1, 2025!

This award honors outstanding service and significant achievements—submit your nomination today to show your appreciation.

[STAR Nomination portal \(VPN required offsite\)](#)

## GERI COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Welcome to UCSF  
Geriatrics Community  
Resources



This week's Geri Community Resource is: [Felton Institute](#).

[Felton Institute](#) offers a wide range of aging services. Felton Institute's Senior Division specializes in workforce development, mental health, and community engagement. Felton Institute's Senior Division helps older adults to thrive and live high-quality, safe, and dignified lives in their communities. Felton Institute's Senior Division runs programs in six Bay Area counties: City and County of San Francisco, San Benito, Marin, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and San Mateo Counties. For more information, visit their website or call (415) 474-7310 x 435.

# Felton institute

[Find Geriatrics  
Community  
Resources here](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**February 19: Geriatrics**

Works in Progress

8:30 - 9:40 AM

Speaker: TBD

[Zoom Link](#)**February 26: Geriatrics**

Works in Progress

8:30 - 9:40 AM

Speaker: TBD

[Zoom Link](#)**February 26: Geriatric &**Palliative Medicine Grand  
Rounds

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Speaker: Ken Covinsky,  
MDLocation: HSW-300 and  
via Zoom[Register](#)**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES****UCSF Division of  
Geriatrics is  
Recruiting!**[Click here for more  
details>>](#)**Current Career Opportunities:**

- [Clinician Educator \(JPF05152\)](#)
- [Research Scientist \(JPF04741\)](#)
- [Harris Fishbon Distinguished Professor for  
Clinical Translational Research in Aging  
\(JPF05153\)](#)
- [Research Associate \(82976BR\)](#)
- [Clinical Research Coordinator \(83592BR\)](#)

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Mission. [Learn More >>](#)[Donate now](#)For questions, comments, or suggestions, email [GeriAdmin@ucsf.edu](mailto:GeriAdmin@ucsf.edu)UCSF Division of Geriatrics | 490 Illinois Street, Floor 8, San Francisco, CA 94143 | [geriatrics.ucsf.edu](http://geriatrics.ucsf.edu)