

# RESURG

## Research Experience in Surgery

### Visit Our Website:

<http://health.ucdavis.edu/surgery/resurg.html>

### Social Media:

Instagram:

<http://www.instagram.com/ucdavisresurg/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/ucdavisresurg/>

**Email Us:** [hs-resurg@ucdavis.edu](mailto:hs-resurg@ucdavis.edu)

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Our vision is to promote, develop, and train students to become competent research professionals, while mentoring them in their professional and educational goals.*

### CURRENT PROJECTS

#### Pre-operative Prophylactic Antibiotics in Appendicitis

**Research Classification:** Prospective

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Erin Brown

**Research Assistants:** Anjani Patibandla

**Anticipated Enrollment #:** 1000

**Study description:** This is a prospective, multi-site study that seeks to evaluate the effects of administering pre-operative prophylactic antibiotics to pediatric patients undergoing laparoscopic appendectomy. The aim of this study is to determine whether the administration of these antibiotics decreases rates of surgical site infection.

#### AAST Vascular Trauma Registry: Prospective Observational Vascular Injury Trial (PROOVIT):

**Research Classification:** Retrospective/Prospective

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Victoria Lyo

**Research Assistants:** Zilan Zheng (Lead)

**Anticipated Enrollment #:** N/A

**Study description:** We aim to better understand the impact obesity has on cognitive decline and the impact bariatric surgery has on improving or affecting obesity-related cognitive impairment. We hypothesize bariatric surgery leads to improved cognitive function. To answer this, we are performing a retrospective medical chart review comparing cognitive impairment in patients with obesity versus those with obesity who had bariatric surgery. We are also prospectively performing cognitive testing in a cohort pre- and post-bariatric surgery. This study will help us understand the impact of surgical weight loss on cognitive impairment and potentially provide data to support the use of bariatric surgery to prevent dementia.

#### Effect of Online Family Interventions on Glycemic Control in Children with Type One Diabetes

**Research Classification:** Retrospective

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Lindsay Loomba- Albrecht

**Research Assistants:** Elisa Gonzalez

**Anticipated Enrollment #:** ~75 subjects

**Study description:** This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of telehealth medicine and watching online video modules in regard to family dynamic and better diabetes management for children with Type One Diabetes. As we measure and collect the patient's glucose values once a month for 2 years, we will determine if watching such video modules has benefitted the child and their family in terms of their disease as well as their parent-child relationship.

### HOW IS RESURG CURRENTLY DOING?

# Physicians RESURG is Currently Assisting: 14

# RESURG RAs Assisting on Research Studies: 21

# Research Studies RESURG is Assisting on: 41

**Divisions RESURG Currently Supports:** *Vascular, Oncology, Pediatrics, Trauma, Cardiothoracic, and Foregut, Metabolic and General Surgery*

### HAVE A STUDY YOU NEED HELP WITH?

Request Assistance [HERE](#). To learn more about our program visit our website [HERE](#).

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS!



## HARSHITHA NAIDU

After RESURG, I was hired as a Clinical Research Coordinator for the Department of Pediatrics. I have also recently been onboarded as the RESURG Onboarding Officer and will be on administration. Following my time as a CRC, I plan on applying to medical school! Through RESURG, I have been able to get involved in clinical research and learn more about how medicine is progressing. I have also been able to develop my skills, which have allowed me to get a job with UCD Health and develop my leadership abilities. I have truly enjoyed being a part of this program with likeminded students who are passionate about healthcare and research!



## MATTHEW KIM

My future plans include moving to Sunnyvale and applying to Clinical Research Coordinator positions as I also apply for the 2023 Medical School Application cycle. I'm planning to rent under my cousin's grandmother to save money and practice my conversational Korean. Outside of that, I'm also traveling to New York and Thailand to celebrate graduating from Davis too! For my experience in resurg: "I joined RESURG at the start of my sophomore year, and I have been lucky enough to witness the program mature. All my amazing mentors have allowed me to grow and become a better communicator, researcher, and leader alongside the RESURG Team. I can't wait to see how far the Data Specialist team will continue to evolve, and I'm grateful for my three years in the program as I continue developing my skills to become a medical professional."



## SRIKAR SHRIKANTHAM

My post-graduation plans are to continue doing clinical research with RESURG and to apply to medical school after taking a few gap years. I also just started as a junior specialist with the Pediatrics Division in the Department of Surgery.

My time in RESURG has really allowed me to develop as an individual professionally. This program gave me the opportunity to tackle big responsibilities and has allowed me to become a better learner and listener, which are traits that are super important in the medical field. I am confident that the skills and knowledge I have gained during my time in RESURG will help me achieve at the highest level in my future endeavors.



## SAMVEDA RUKMANGADHAN

After RESURG, I plan to travel to India for a month, and then I will start as a Medical Assistant for my gap year job. RESURG helped me learn more about the large impact clinical research has in the medical field and has inspired me to continue pursuing clinical research opportunities in my gap year, and hopefully during medical school. RESURG taught me about professionalism, and gave me opportunities that stretch beyond research, like helping organize our Philanthropy event, *Fostering the Future*. Through this program, I have met some incredible people, including other undergrad students, residents, and physicians, that have become my friends and my mentors. I would like to thank everyone that I have worked with for facilitating such an amazing program.

# WELCOME RESURG'S SPRING 2022 CLASS



"RESURG has already been such an amazing and unique experience. I have learned so much about what goes into each research study, from gaining IRB approval to screening patients to learning how to use REDCap. As my time continues, I am looking forward to working with other members of RESURG and continuing to learn about the research process, from beginning to end."

**Alisa Tabaian, Data Specialist**

"During my first quarter in RESURG, I learned a lot about the ethics and regulations that must be followed during the clinical research process. I worked on my first protocol, which was a challenging yet great learning experience. With the help of my mentor and fellow RESURG members, I have been able to refine my professional and time management skills. This program has been very rewarding, and I am excited to start working on my first study, PCPLC (The Pediatric Colorectal and Pelvic Learning Consortium)."

**Devin Martinez, Research Assistant**

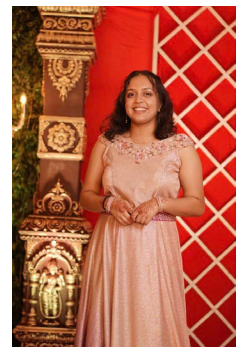


"I learned a lot about the process of how research is started and conducted, as well as the tools used to collect and store data. The mentorship from this program has helped me in more ways than one when it comes to refining my professionalism skills. This program has been incredibly informative, and I look forward to working on future studies with RESURG."

**Emily Xu, Research Assistant**

"RESURG has already been such an amazing and unique experience. I have learned so much about what goes into each research study, from gaining IRB approval to screening patients to learning how to use REDCap. As my time continues, I am looking forward to working with other members of RESURG and continuing to learn about the research process, from beginning to end."

**Nithya Ganti, Research Assistant**



# FOSTERING THE FUTURE



Special thanks to Zilan, Samveda and Anjani for making this event happen (left); RESURG team with high school scholars on the last day (bottom)



RESURG (Research Experience in Surgery) had our second annual philanthropy event, Fostering the Future on July 30th to 31st. This was a two-day program that aims to provide underserved high school students in Sacramento County the opportunity to explore careers in the field of healthcare and learn valuable professional and life skills that will aid in fostering a successful future in healthcare careers. During this event, the students attended several workshops that promote professional development, build professional connections, and enhance education about careers in healthcare, medicine, and clinical research. Some of the courses offered was a suturing workshop, medical professions panel, and a resume/cover letter writing class. This event has been a huge success and would not have been possible without the support of the healthcare professionals who came in and our RESURGers who led the students. We look forward to putting on future events!

## VASCULAR RESEARCH ASSISTANT SPOTLIGHT

### **Neha Gondra, Vascular Research Assistant**

*How long have you been in the program?* 1 year, entering my 5<sup>th</sup> quarter

*What studies do you currently work on?* (1) Implementation of Telemedicine for Patients with Wounds and Ulcers, PI: Dr. Humphries (2) How does obesity affect outcomes after surgery and how are outcomes affected after bariatric surgery: A UC Davis experience, PI: Dr. Lyo (3) Patient Engagement and Outcomes for Vascular Conditions, PI: Dr. Humphries, and (4) Shifting Care and Outcomes for Patients with Endangered Limbs - Critical Limb Ischemia, PI: Dr. Humphries

*How has this program impacted you?* “RESURG has helped me grow as a professional, building my confidence in my public speaking and interpersonal skills. I have been able to cultivate my research skills as well, developing my scientific curiosity and partaking in all aspects of clinical research, from a study start-up to data collection and analysis to presenting at research conferences. My biggest takeaway from RESURG was recognizing how clinical research is so important in advancing healthcare and reducing negative outcomes from disease and illness. I have grown as a researcher and leader and am inspired to pursue research in my future career.”



# INTRODUCING OUR FALL 2022-2023 ADMIN TEAM

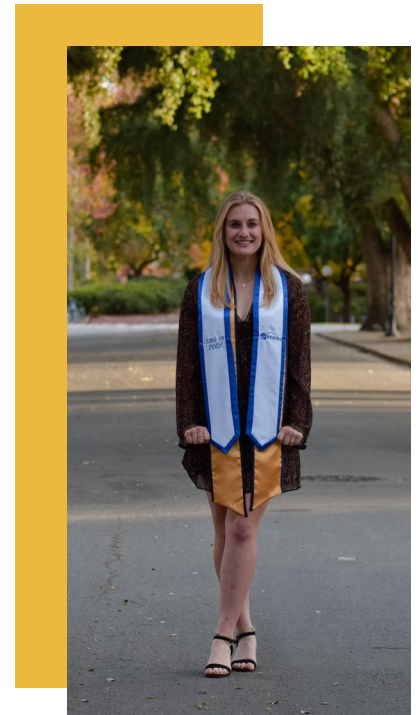
## **Andrea Sommer, Supervising Officer**

*Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and a Minor in Human Physiology  
Graduated December 2021*

*What are your responsibilities in this position?* Overseeing the development of the RESURG program and all activities performed under the program. Additionally, I manage all program events, facilitating our mentorship program, and connecting students with new research projects/PIs.

*What motivated you to take on this role?* I have been with the program for over 2.5 years and have served on admin previously. When I learned of the open SO position, I was motivated to run in order to continue providing a successful experience to all our current and future members.

*Any current projects?* I am currently working on exposing our students to more aspects of clinical research in the hospital through possible workshops, tours, and events connecting our students to a wide variety of professionals at UC Davis Health. Additionally, I hope to expand within the department of surgery to be able to support all divisions with the vast variety of research.



## **Rafael Ricon, Education Officer**

*Global Disease Biology, Class of 2023*

*What are your responsibilities in the program?*

I organize the curriculum, determine the class content, and oversee transcript notation and unit registration for RESURG students.

*What motivated you to take on this role?*

I have a passion for teaching students and being able to oversee classes for a program whose work I'm so passionate about sounded like an incredible opportunity to grow and give back to RESURG!

*Any current projects?* One project I would like to see realized this quarter is organizing another Surgery N' Snacks social, both to get the team to bond more and provide another opportunity to learn from our medical center's amazing healthcare providers!





**Ryan Nguyen, Regulatory and Compliance Officer**

*Double major in Global Disease Biology, International Relations.  
Graduated June 2022*

*What are your responsibilities in the program?* The main purpose of this role is to maintain current training and filing of every researcher's qualification, as well as ensure all studies managed by the program are compliant with hospital and FDA policy.

*What motivated you to take on this role?* I have an interest in the legal aspect of healthcare. Much of this role entails ensuring that we as researchers are legally in good standing to be able to take on the job of studies involving human subjects, so I saw that this role was an excellent way for me to explore that interest further.

*Any current projects?* A project I really enjoy exercising my creativity in is a website that I am building under the auspices of my mentor Dr. Humphries. She is working to create a comprehensive limb salvage program, promoting vascular surgical techniques, educating patients, and coordinating various healthcare providers in order to reduce the need for amputations.

**Harshitha Naidu, Onboarding Officer**

*Bachelor of Science in Neurobiology and a Minor in Psychology  
Graduated June 2022*

*What are your responsibilities in the program?* I am responsible for overseeing the applying cycle and onboarding new members into the program. I also help the administrative team with educational curriculum, trainings, and other administrative duties.

*What motivated you to take on this role?* I was motivated to run for this position, as I wanted to be more involved and be able to help develop the program further as we navigate unprecedented times and changes. I enjoy talking to people about my experience in RESURG and felt I would be able to help guide new members into the program and help with recruitment.

*Any current projects?* I am currently working with our new class of RESURG students and helping them through the onboarding process. I hope to be able to develop our application cycle further and make our onboarding process more efficient as needed!



**THANK YOU!**

The Admin and RESURG Team would like to thank Ashley Truong and Avni Suri who both left their respective Admin positions in RESURG this summer. We all appreciate the hard work and dedication you both brought to our program!

Avni recently started the Master of Biomedical Sciences program at California University of Science & Medicine. Ashley is continuing her role as the Clinical Research Coordinator with the Vascular Division in the Department of Surgery. Congratulations to them both!