

# Department of Urology

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## A Year in Review

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**Research Spotlight: UCI Applied Innovations Awards Proof of Product (POP) Award**

The Surgical Education Center  
UCI Urolithiasis Kidney Center

### 2019 Physicians of Excellence

(top left to right) Thomas E. Ahlering, M.D., Urologic Oncology, Mark Jordan, M.D., Urologic Oncology, Melvin Leon Seard II, M.D., General Urology, Ralph V. Clayman, M.D., Endourology, Joel Gelman, M.D., Men's Reconstruction, Edward Uchio, M.D., Urologic Oncology, (front left to right) Gamal Ghoniem, M.D., Female Urology, and Jaime Landman, M.D., Chairman, Endourology, Urologic Oncology)



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear friends and colleagues,

2018 was possibly our department's best year ever. Among the top highlights were: being ranked on USNWR, the opening of a state-of-the-art outpatient facility in Newport Beach, adding 5 new faculty members (bringing our distinguished full-time faculty to 24), and now 5 endowed chairs within the department. We recount our blessings in this department update special edition on page 3.

The late Jerry D. Choate will be remembered as a talented, accomplished leader who left an indelible mark on the world through his generosity. His legacy will leave a lasting impression having given to our department in so many different ways. Please read on page 4 about his family's JDC Foundation which has continued to support one of our outreach programs for high school students.

Learn more about our Surgical Education Center on page 7. Our Surgical Education Center served more than 2,000 learners in 2018 and was reaccredited by the American College of Surgeons through 2023. This center is very near and dear to our department as it is truly fertile ground for innovation, discovery and education. Among the many events held within the center, we are pleased to co-host with the American Urologic Association "Practical PCNL: From Access to Exit - A Hands-on Course" for the fourth time. Another one of our innovative research projects that engendered within this center received the UCI Applied Innovation Proof of Product (POP) grant. Read about this research spotlight on page 6.

We are extremely pleased to welcome back to the department Drs. Dena and Ross Moskowitz. There is a lot of history behind these two docs, both having completed their residency here at UCI Urology and Dr. Ross Moskowitz having been on staff from 2013-2016. After two years away so Dr. Dena Moskowitz could complete fellowship training program in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) at Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle, Washington, we are pleased they have rejoined our academic family at UCI Urology.

Stay tuned for the big plans we have in 2019. As always, thank you for your continued interest and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jaime Landman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jaime Landman, M.D.

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

## Growing World-Class Faculty and Expertise

**5**

pediatric specialists

**19**

adult specialists

**5**

**new faculty members:**

Roshan Patel, M.D., Ross Moskowitz, M.D.,  
Dena Moskowitz, M.D., Ronald Solomon, M.D.,  
and Daniel Cwikla, M.D.

Added Newport Beach office in August, now **7 locations** across Orange County and Inland Empire

### Innovative Research

**240** Active Research Projects

**116** Publications

**51** Reviews/Chapters

**3** Case Reports

**1** Patents

**161** Abstracts/posters/presentations or international conferences

### Education

**121** Lectures to medical students to undergraduates

**431** Lectures to residents/hospital

**90** Lectures to grand rounds or journal club

**112** External courses, lectures and visiting professors

**749** Total teaching activity points

## FIVE ENDOWED CHAIRHOLDERS

An endowed chair is a distinctive academic tradition, and to receive this accolade is regarded as one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon a physician in university medicine. An endowed chair supports unfettered investigation of innovative ideas and potentially life-saving discoveries. It gives a talented physician time away from the medical center and the lecture hall to imagine, think and dream.



**Endowed Chair in Urologic Oncology**  
Dr. Thomas Ahlering



**Walter R. Schmid Chair in Pediatric Urology**  
Dr. Antoine Khoury



**Endowed Chair in Endourology**  
Dr. Ralph V. Clayman



**Jerry D. Choate Endowed Chair in Urologic Oncology**  
Dr. Edward Uchio



**Jerry D. Choate Presidential Endowed Chair in Urology Tissue Engineering**  
Joshua Mauney

## DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

### General Urology

Melvin Leon Seard II, M.D., Michael K. Louie, M.D., Mrinal Dhar, M.D., Ross Moskowitz, M.D., Ronald S. Solomon, M.D., Daniel Cwikla, M.D.

### Female Urology

Gamal Ghoniem, M.D., Judy Choi, M.D., Dena Moskowitz, M.D.

### Men's Health

Faysal A. Yafi, M.D.

### Reconstruction

Joel Gelman, M.D.

### Urological Cancers

Thomas E. Ahlering, M.D., Mark Jordan, M.D., Edward Uchio, M.D., Cory M. Hugen, M.D., Jamie Landman, M.D.

### Pediatric Urology

Antoine E. Khoury, M.D., Irene McAleer, M.D., Elias Wehbi, M.D., Heidi Stephany, M.D., Kai-Wen Chuang, M.D.

### Kidney Stones & Kidney Disease

Ralph V. Clayman, M.D., Jaime Landman, M.D., Ramy Yaacoub, M.D., Roshan Patel, M.D.

### Robotic Surgery

Thomas E. Ahlering, M.D., Cory M. Hugen, M.D., Edward Uchio, M.D., Mark Jordan, M.D., Gamal Ghoniem, M.D.

### Male and Female Reconstructive Urology

Joel Gelman, M.D., Faysal A. Yafi, M.D., Gamal Ghoniem, M.D., Judy Choi, M.D., Dena Moskowitz, M.D.



# JDC FAMILY FOUNDATION FUNDS THE HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAM



Since 2008, the High School Outreach Program has allowed our Department to give back to the next generation and inspire young minds to search out new possibilities for their future. Since its inception, we have welcomed over 3,200 students from 160 local high schools into our Surgical Education Center.

High School Outreach Program experience includes:

- Live lecture and interactive session with a world-renowned surgeon and medical device innovator.
- Hands-on learning in our laboratory with a highly motivated team at all levels of surgical training on a wide array of surgical skills including open, laparoscopic and robotic surgery.
- Complimentary breakfast and lunch.

On October 24, 2018 the JDC Family Foundation gifted \$50,000 to support this program in memory of their late father, Jerry D. Choate.

“Our foundation is focused primarily on educational programs. We provide annual scholarships to a number of high schools, as well as fund select annual educational programs and one-time educational needs such as class trips, etc. It is our pleasure to provide \$50,000 in funding for this program. It aligns well with our foundation’s goals. Dad would love it,” says Amy Choate Lear, Jerry’s daughter.

We are blessed to be surrounded by talented high school students that grow, learn, and become our healthcare providers of the future. It is an honor to play a role in these students’ lives.



## WELCOME



**Dena Moskowitz, M.D.**

*Assistant Professor of  
Clinical Urology*

- Female Urology
- Pelvic Reconstruction
- Urinary Incontinence  
and Overactive Bladder



**Ross Moskowitz, M.D.**

*Assistant Clinical Professor*

- General Urology
- Benign Prostatic  
Hyperplasia (BPH)
- Urinary Incontinence  
and Overactive Bladder

## UCI KIDNEY STONE CENTER – STRIVING TO BRING THE BEST KIDNEY STONE CARE IMAGINABLE

UC Irvine Urology has long been recognized as a leader in the management of kidney stones. On January 11, 2019 the University of California Irvine Douglas Hospital, in co-operation with the Department of Urology will formally launch the UCI Kidney Stone Center as we open the first most advanced 80kw Gemini lithotripsy unit in the world to be used for cases.



This multi-million dollar advanced surgical suite will be a state-of-the-art suite including the best endoscopic equipment available, and it will house the latest and most comprehensively equipped rendition of the extracorporeal lithotripter.

The lithotripter was first developed by the Dornier Company nearly four decades ago to treat kidney stones in a completely non-invasive manner. To say the least, the upgrades to the machine have been substantial. Indeed, the naming of the unit is most apropos as it combines twin imaging modalities, fluoroscopy and ultrasound, in order to ensure the optimal targeting of the kidney stone. In addition, the unit is designed

with another “twin” purpose in mind: to bring both extracorporeal and minimally invasive stone therapy together. To that end, the unit incorporates a multifunctional table, such that the urologist can also perform a wide array of other stone procedures, including ureteroscopy and percutaneous stone removal while using both imaging modalities. The acquisition of the Dornier Gemini Lithotripter Unit completes the UC Irvine Comprehensive Stone Center affording its faculty and their patients’ access to all aspects of the latest modalities to treat as well as prevent kidney stones.

The UCI Urolithiasis Kidney Stone Center brings together Drs. Landman, Clayman, Yaacoub and Patel, all of whom have had specialty training in kidney stones. Together they represent more experience in treating individuals suffering from kidney stones than any other institution on the West Coast. The combination of world class physicians, the most advanced technology available and a focus on preventative care will provide the best stone care imaginable for the people of Orange County and beyond.



*“News-In-Brief” continued next page*



## NEW ENDOWED CHAIRHOLDER NAMED IN UROLOGIC ONCOLOGY

On Sunday, November 11, 2018, the UCI Department of Urology held the investiture ceremony of the Jerry D. Choate Endowed Chair in Urologic Oncology for Dr. Edward Uchio, Director of Clinical Research and Associate Professor of Clinical Urology. The event celebrated two people: one a talented, accomplished leader who left an

indelible mark on the world through his generosity—the late Jerry Choate. The other, a gifted physician-scientist, who is changing lives through improved urologic cancer treatments—Dr. Edward Uchio.

The UCI Department of Urology and the School of Medicine are deeply grateful to Jerry Choate for recognizing the power of an endowed chair to make a difference and for giving one of our best and brightest the ability to explore and share brilliant ideas to improve treatment and research approaches in urologic oncology.



*Dr. Edward Uchio and his wife Rebecca are joined by Amy Choate Lear and Alison Choate Marschewski on behalf of the family of Jerry D. Choate, as well as Dean of the UCI School of Medicine Dr. Michael Stamos (far left) and Chair of the Department of Urology Dr. Jaime Landman (far right)*

## RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

### UCI APPLIED INNOVATION PROOF OF PRODUCT GRANT AWARD

UCI Urology continues a long tradition of innovative research as UCI Applied Innovation has awarded their Proof of Product (POP) grant in the amount of \$31,000 to our project “Development of a Novel Pressure Sensing Device to Determine the Force Applied during Ureteral Access Sheath Deployment.”

Our minimally invasive urology team including Dr. Kamaljit S. Kaler (now graduated and an Assistant Professor of Urology at Southern Alberta Institute of Urology, University of Calgary, Canada), Renai Yoon, Dr. Jaime Landman, and Dr. Ralph V. Clayman collaborated with UCI School of Engineering faculty Dr. Michael Klopfer and Dr. G.P. Li to create a novel device which could create a safer endoscopic procedure for all patients while increasing the efficiency of the procedure for all urologists.

A Ureteral access sheath (UAS) is a hollow tube that is passed throughout the ureter to facilitate kidney stone surgery by establishing a quick and easy access to the kidney, protecting the inner ureteral wall from damage, and lowering the pressure inside the kidney. Ureteral access sheath insertion, however, can cause damage to the ureter due to discrepancy

between ureteral caliber and the access sheath diameter being used. Currently, ureteral access sheath insertion is relied on the “feel” of the surgeon.

The ureteral access sheath force sensor (UASFS) continuously measures the force applied during ureteral access sheath deployment and eliminates the complications associated with size mismatch. The UASFS has a sensor at the tip of the ureteral access sheath. It alerts the surgeon to how much force is being applied during insertion using auditory and visual indicators.

Currently, a prototype device has been used on over 30 patients as part of a prospective trial at the Department of Urology at UCI. So far, no high grade injuries to the ureter have been observed when the pressure applied was less than 8 Newtons (N). A second generation prototype device has been partially constructed and clinically functional devices are expected to be used in 3 additional medical centers (UCSD, University of Wisconsin, and University of Calgary) as part of a multi-institutional study.

# THE SURGICAL EDUCATION CENTER



The UCI Surgical Education Center serves as the heart of our Discover, Teach and Heal mission. Established in 2003 by Dr. Ralph V. Clayman, this state-of-the-art facility provides the highest quality surgical education and facilitates cutting-edge research in service to UCI faculty, residents, medical students and allied health professionals, including pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device companies as well as community surgeons.

In 2006, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Elspeth McDougall, Professor of Urology, the Surgical Education Center was the first facility in California and among the initial 8 in the country to earn the Level I Education Center designation from the American College of Surgeons Comprehensive Accredited Education Institute. This accreditation has been successfully renewed 4 times over the last 12 years, having just recently received full accreditation through 2023.

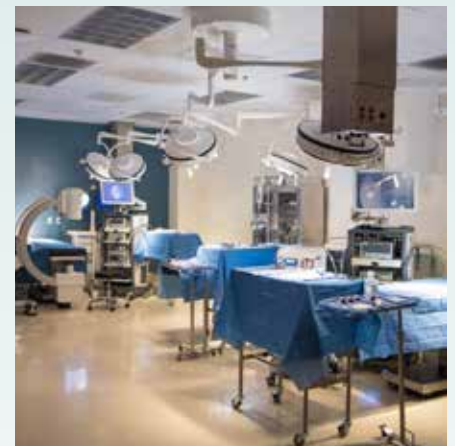
Every year, the Surgical Education Center provides approximately

100 educational events, in service to nearly 2,000 learners. Surgical and clinical departments and/or divisions who routinely utilize this center include but are not limited to Urology, Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, GI Oncology, OB/GYN, Burn, Trauma, and Emergency Medicine. The resources available to our educators allow for unparalleled teaching opportunities in a broad range of surgical diseases and leading-edge technology. Since 2003, this center has provided over 1,500 innovative, state-of-the-art courses, training over 15,500 medical personnel from around the world.



As a perfect example, on February 23-24, 2019, the UC Irvine Urology and the American Urological Association will be partnering again for its 4th consecutive year to host The Practical PCNL: From Access to Exit - A Hands-on Course. For more information on this course, please visit <https://auau.auanet.org/PCNL191#group-tabs-node-course-default1>

High quality teaching, breadth of topics, and an ongoing commitment to educational excellence are the constant hallmarks of the UCI Surgical Education Center.





# UCI Health

Department of Urology  
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Orange, CA 92868

## Our Locations

### Orange

101 The City Drive South, Pavilion 3,  
Building 29  
Orange, CA 92868

### Newport Beach

20350 SW Birch St.,  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

### Tustin

1451 Irvine Blvd.  
Tustin, CA 92780

### Chino Hills

15944 Los Serranos Country Club  
Drive, Ste. 200  
Chino Hills, CA 91709

### Eastvale

12523 Limonite Ave., Ste. 400  
Eastvale, CA 91752

### Pediatric Locations

#### Orange

505 S. Main St. Suite 100  
Orange, CA 92868

#### Huntington Beach

19582 Beach Blvd. Suite 380  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

#### Newport Beach

20350 SW Birch St.  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

#### Long Beach

2888 Long Beach Blvd. Suite 340  
Long Beach, CA 90806

For appointments or referrals,  
please contact Christina Hwang  
714-292-9716

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At UCI Health, we are powered by discovery and innovation to provide leading-edge healthcare and innovative medical education. You can join us in our mission by making a gift today – from cash and securities to real estate and other appreciated assets.

Please contact Erika Bernal at [erbernal@uci.edu](mailto:erbernal@uci.edu) or 714-509-2112 for a personal conversation about how you can be the spark that changes a life for the better.



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