



Updates from the Enterprise

Departing Residents Edition, June 2017

Farewell 2016-2017 Residents!

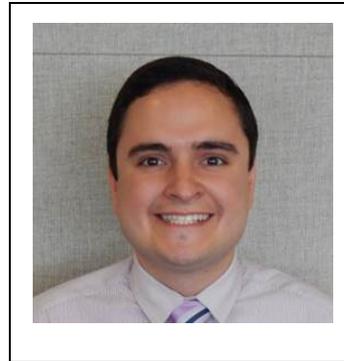
Pharmacy Practice Residents



**William Alegria
(Rosalind Franklin
University)**

It seems like just yesterday I was packing my bags and boarding a one-way flight to San Francisco after completing pharmacy school at Rosalind

Franklin University of Medicine and Science. The last year at UCSF has been everything I expected, and then some! I've learned from some of the most brilliant minds in the pharmacy profession, made lifelong friendships, and grown exponentially as a healthcare provider. I feel privileged to have worked with our amazing program director and the leadership within the Medical Center and the School of Pharmacy. Although my time at UCSF is coming to a close, I'll take with me all of the experiences and memories I've created over the past year. I'm excited to share that I'll be completing my PGY-2 training in Infectious Diseases at The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Although I'll miss everyone terribly, I look forward to this new opportunity with the hope that it will make me a more competent, well-rounded clinician. For all of my intelligent, kind, and gifted co-residents, I leave you with this: "Goodbyes are not forever. Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I'll miss you, until we meet again!"



**Matias Campos
(Northeastern
University)**

And with that, this PGY-1 experience comes to close! I feel incredibly lucky to have shared this experience with the most supportive preceptors and co-residents I could have

asked for. After warmly embracing the West Coast last year, I accomplished (almost) everything that I set out to do after making the move from Northeastern University in Boston – fortunately that list has only gotten longer! The exponential growth that occurred over the past year has been both exhilarating yet exhausting and probably impossible to quantify. From inflating sterile gloves like balloons during IV training to shouting "done!" and "nice!" in CUDA, we all have come such a long way. Of course, it would not have been possible without the guidance of our preceptors, clinicians, managers, faculty, staff, and our phenomenal program director, Cathi "boss" Dennehy. It has truly been the honor of my many years of training to call you my preceptors and co-residents – it will be the privilege of my professional career to call you my colleagues.

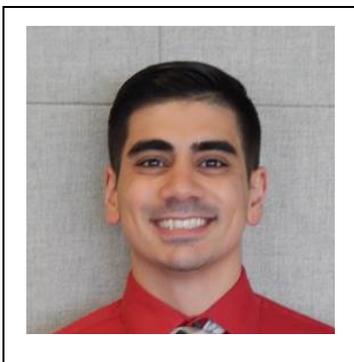
I am incredibly proud of our class's accomplishments this year and I am confident we will continue to excel, regardless of where we go. Since I am *not* ready to leave California to head back East, I am excited for the next challenge of my career right here at UCSF Mission Bay with Adult Surgical/Oncology Services.



**Kerjun Chang
(USC)**

Is it already over? I can hardly believe that it's already been a year since starting the PGY1 program here at UCSF. When I graduated with a PharmD from the University of Southern

California in 2013 and started working as one of a few pharmacists at a rural 51-bed hospital, I never imagined I would return to do a residency. This year has definitely been a whirlwind of events and experiences packed with patient care, meetings, projects, teaching, and a smattering of crazy times in the CUDA. And I could not have picked better people to have shared this experience with. This has been such an amazing and unique experience that would not have been the same without my fantastic co-residents, our amazing program director, Cathi Dennehy, program manager Erin Harrison, and all of the great preceptors, managers, and staff with whom I am so grateful to have worked with and learned from throughout the year. While it took much to decide to give up my previous pharmacist life in exchange for the life of a resident, I can confidently say that I made the right decision, knowing that I will carry the invaluable lessons from this experience with me for the rest of my life. Though sadly, many goodbyes will need to be said at the end of this year, I am happy to say that at least a few of them will not have said right away, as I will be staying on with UCSF as a per-diem pharmacist after the end of residency!

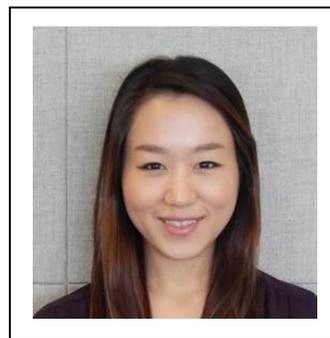


**David Hughes
(Albany College of
Pharmacy)**

If you asked me during P3 year if UCSF was in the cards for me, I would have said "not a chance." Despite this disbelief, I am now graduating from

UCSF's pharmacy residency program. I routinely reflect on my positive experiences of the year and I am grateful to have had them. I felt myself transition from a clueless graduate struggling to verify my first inpatient orders (for docusate and other relatively

benign medications) to a clinical pharmacist independently providing evidence-based recommendations for critically ill patients. It was a journey full of constant fatigue, late nights in the residency office, tears shed and stress beyond belief. However, strangely enough, I would repeat this residency in a heartbeat. This is because although it has been the most challenging year of my life, it has also been my most rewarding year of professional growth. This was also the first time I was farther than 20 miles from home, and I thought for sure the first month into this residency, I had made a mistake. But there is something to be said about the people here at UCSF. They created a great support system and are the reason for my professional growth and development. Preceptors, co-residents, mentors, advisors I cannot thank you all enough for encouraging excellence and pushing my limits. I am proud to call you all my colleagues, and my friends. Comparing myself on day 1 to 365 days later, I am a better pharmacist because of the people that have surrounded me and provided me with support. Although sad to leave UCSF, I will be continuing my training back on the east coast as a PGY-2 oncology resident at Boston Medical Center. My accomplishments and future direction would not have been possible without this program and the people at UCSF. I am excited to start this new chapter of my life as I move closer to my fiancé, family, and new career. But one thing is for sure, once a family, always a family, and my UCSF family will be there forever. I will love and miss you all!



**Amy Kang
(Loma Linda University)**

I cannot believe it is now time to depart from this residency program! This year has been truly a blessing for me. This UCSF residency program helped me grow

tremendously in all aspects of my lives—personally, clinically, and professionally. It was such an honor having met and worked with a remarkable residency director, co-residents, amazing staff, preceptors, faculty, and students at UCSF. They motivated me to strive forward, never give up, and commit to a career of lifelong learning. Looking back, I am surprised with how much I have learned and accomplished this year. I am indebted to UCSF for such an invaluable

experience! I feel well equipped to tackle the challenges that lie ahead for me as a PGY-2 Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Resident at Los Angeles County + University of Southern California Medical Center this upcoming year. I am grateful for all those shaped me into the pharmacist I am today.



**Kristine Keller
(University of Maryland)**

It is truly bittersweet thinking about the last few weeks I will be spending at UCSF as a PGY-1. At this time last year, I was mapping a 3000 mile driving route

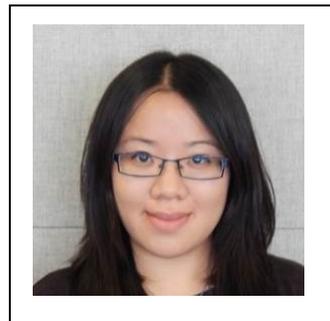
from The University of Maryland in Baltimore to San Francisco to start my new journey in life. However, I never realized the amount of growth I could accomplish in one year alone. I had the opportunity to learn under many incredible teachers for whom I owe a debt of gratitude. To each individual that provided me mentorship, emotional and educational support, and not least your time, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am proud to have been your “learner” and hope I can use the knowledge you’ve given me to become a better pharmacist for the years to come. One person that I would be remiss if I did not mention specifically is Cathi Dennehy. I could honestly write a book on the many things she has taught me from humility, true constructive feedback, work-life balance, and most importantly reminding me constantly to live true to who I am as a person. Thank you for touching my life in such a significant and humbling way. To my co-residents, I thank each and every one of you for your uniqueness. I could not have survived without the MANY memorable moments we had collectively as a Phamily. Although I will be closing this chapter as a PGY-1, I look forward to the next staying as one of the PGY-2 residents in Critical Care. I have more work ahead professionally, and personally, and I cannot imagine doing it anywhere else!



**Jennifer Kwon
(University of Colorado)**

It seems like just yesterday when I was packing my bags and excited to move back to California. I cannot believe how quickly one year has passed by since

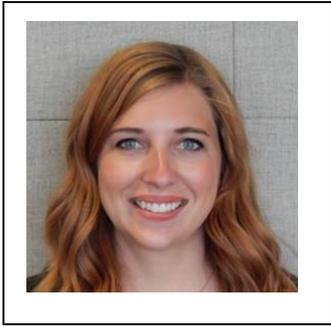
graduating from the University of Colorado and I am packing my bags once again with only one month left of PGY-1 Residency. I have made so many fond memories here at UCSF with my co-residents, preceptors, mentors and friends. This year has been full of new and challenging learning experiences and I have grown so much both personally and professionally. I am sad to leave UCSF as I embark on my next journey down to sunny Southern California as a PGY-2 Health System Pharmacy Administration Resident at Kaiser Permanente Downey. I will never forget the remarkable learning experiences and the great memories I have made up here in the Bay. I want to thank everyone at UCSF for teaching, investing in me, and supporting me through this year. I am confident that my training here has prepared me for the next step in my career. I hope to cross paths with everyone again in the future and best of luck to all my co-residents and colleagues!



**Ngan Lai
(University of Wisconsin)**

Ten years ago, I visited the Parnassus campus as part of the UCSF Fresno Summer Biomedical Research Internship Program. I still vividly remember looking up at

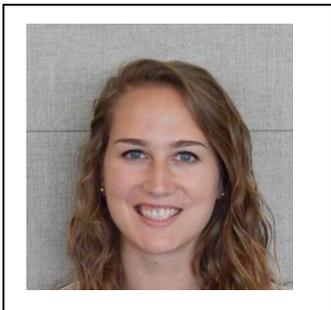
the medical center in awe, promising myself to someday work or study at UCSF. I never thought I would be able to achieve this goal as a PGY1 pharmacy practice resident. It feels bittersweet to leave UCSF, and I am incredibly grateful for all the challenging yet rewarding learning opportunities. This year has pushed me to grow beyond my expectations—both personally and professionally. I will dearly miss my amazing co-residents and could not have asked for a better or more supportive group. Thank you to all my preceptors, Cathi, Erin, and the pharmacy managers, staff, and faculty for an unforgettable experience. I look forward to continuing my training at UCSD for a PGY2 in Critical Care. Until next time, UCSF!



**Kathie Nowicki
(University of
Washington)**

It is unbelievable that a year ago I graduated from University of Washington School of Pharmacy and moved to San Francisco to begin my professional

pharmacy practice residency training at UCSF. It is difficult to capture all the memorable experiences over this past year. It has been such a pleasure to have worked with such caring residents, pharmacists, faculty, and students. As our residency year has come to an end, I will greatly miss the friends I have made during this journey. I feel so lucky to have survived this year with such a supportive group. I have gained confidence as a pharmacist and as a clinician over this past year and am so grateful I get to stay in the Bay Area. I am beyond excited to have the opportunity to continue my training at UCSF and Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital with a PGY2 in psychiatry! Thank you UCSF for an unforgettable year and looking forward to another!

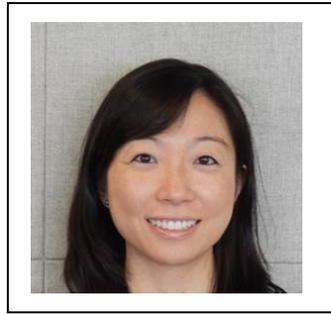


**Jessica Zook
(West Virginia
University)**

It's crazy to think that this year is already coming to a close! This year has been filled to the brim with new experiences and growth,

and I am so thankful to have been here at UCSF. Between discovering a newfound love of pediatrics, traveling to Guatemala for research, and planning/having my own wedding, it is a year that I will never forget. I have my s/understanding preceptors, mentors, co-residents and residency director to thank for helping me and supporting me through this year.

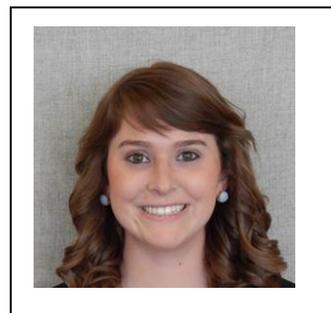
Luckily, a whole second year at UCSF is on the horizon for me, as I will be staying here for a PGY-2 in Pediatrics next year. I couldn't be more excited to stay and continue to learn in the UCSF community!



**Dorothy Wang
(UCSF)**

I am a proud graduate of the UCSF School of Pharmacy and now a proud, albeit tired, graduate of the UCSF PGY1 Pharmacy Practice

Residency. With such diverse learning experiences in patient care, teaching, staffing, and projects, I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to be a part of this residency program and to continue learning at this incredible institution. UCSF has always been my gold standard for what I wanted from a residency program since I was a first-year pharmacy student here, and I have definitely accomplished many of my professional goals as a new practitioner in this challenging yet supportive environment. The preceptors, staff pharmacists, technicians, managers, and, of course, my uniquely wonderful co-residents never cease to amaze and inspire me. I could not have asked for a better group of co-residents with whom to commiserate and celebrate, and I will miss seeing everyone all together here next year during my PGY2 residency in oncology. Thank you, UCSF, and I look forward to another year!



**Allyson Thrall
(University of
Houston)**

After living in Texas for 8 years and graduating from the University of Houston, I was eager to escape the heat and move to San Francisco,

where it's 60 degrees year-round. This year was like the Parnassus hill; a difficult climb, but we've finally reached the top! I am forever grateful to have had the opportunity to complete my PGY1 residency here at UCSF. I learned from excellent clinicians, managers, faculty, and an especially amazing group of co-residents. I am excited to be continuing my post-graduate training at UCSF as one of the pediatric PGY2 residents.

Pharmacy Specialty Residents



**Fred Chang
(PGY2 Informatics)**

It seems like yesterday that I packed my car for the cross country journey back to the West Coast shortly after graduating from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.

During my first year back in California, I completed my PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System. Needless to say, the past several years have been filled with amazing experiences.

Over the past year here at UCSF, I have had the opportunity to earn Epic Willow certification and manage several projects from theoretical concepts through implementation. Words cannot describe my gratitude for the amazing mentors and staff that have inspired me and supported my development professionally and personally. My experiences this past year have given me the skills and confidence to integrate technology with medical practice to enhance medication safety, delivery, and outcomes. This past year would not be complete without the support of the fabulous co-residents. They were always there for me whenever I needed a sounding board or just someone to eat tacos/burritos with. I am excited for the new opportunities and challenges ahead as I cross over to the other side. Thank you for a fantastic year!



**Katie Dacey
(PGY2 Oncology)**

As I wrap up my 24th (and allegedly final) month as a UCSF pharmacy resident, I find myself reflecting on all of the amazing opportunities I have had during my time

here. I have been fortunate to learn from some of the most hardworking and enthusiastic clinical pharmacists in the field. When I was considering

leaving my comfort zone at UCSD two years ago to return home to the Bay Area and start a PGY1 residency at UCSF, I was warned that I was in for a challenging and rigorous venture. They weren't lying. But, I am forever grateful that I made that decision and as a result have been able to work with the most AMAZING and brilliant people! I am especially grateful for Courtney, Rich, and the rest of the oncology pod who taught me more than I ever thought possible in the last year during my PGY2 oncology pharmacy residency. And props to my back-to-back co-rezzie Sarah Kim for playing a major role in maintaining my happiness and sanity. I am beyond excited to be staying on at UCSF as an oncology pharmacist in the infusion center and investigational drug service settings, and hope that means I'll be seeing all of you in the near future! I'm down for a glass (or bottle) of wine any time!

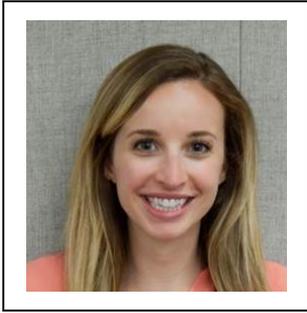
Joshua Garcia



(PGY2 Infectious Disease)

It feels like a lifetime ago that I was moving my entire life in four suitcases after graduating from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and starting residency here at UCSF!

Now two residencies later, I can't believe it's all coming to a close. I feel extremely blessed for the lifelong friends I have made, the mentors I have learned from, and the unforgettable experiences that I will continue to cherish. As I begin my career as an Infectious Diseases faculty member at Marshall B. Ketchum University in Fullerton CA, I will always be grateful for everything UCSF has given to me. Packing a lifetime of happiness, friendship, and memories into just two years shows how truly great it is to be here at UCSF and I will miss it dearly!



**Katherine Gruenberg
(PGY2 Infectious
Disease/Academia)**

The central task of education is to implant a will and a facility for learning; it should produce not learned but learning people...In a

time of drastic change it is the learners who inherit the future

–Eric Hoffer

After obtaining my Doctor of Pharmacy degree from UCSF School of Pharmacy, I completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Based on my past experiences, I was excited to return to the Bay Area for this PGY2 program! From the ID services at UCSF and Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital to conducting educational scholarship and teaching amongst the UCSF professional schools, this year has far exceeded my hopes and expectations!

I'm grateful to those who shared your talents with me this year. Thank you to the faculty, managers, preceptors, co-residents, technicians, and students who have facilitated my growth and development. This training year has provided an education I will always treasure. This fall, I look forward to joining the ranks as an Assistant Professor through the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at UCSF.



**Sarah Kim
(PGY2 Oncology)**

UCSF – words cannot express; you have been life changing. I never imagined that I would be completing two years of residency training from such an incredible

institution after obtaining my PharmD from Western University of Health Sciences. Though there were many ups and downs, I have not only enhanced my clinical knowledge, but have also grown exponentially in my ability to take on life and all of its challenges. I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with amazing people and benefit from their unbelievable knowledge. I will be forever grateful to the residency preceptors and especially the hematology/oncology pharmacy pod for their unconditional support this past year – from love to

health and all that lies in between. San Francisco has been home for two years now and the background for creating unforgettable memories and lasting friendships. Though bittersweet, I will be starting my “adult” career in San Diego as an oncology pharmacist at Scripps MD Anderson outpatient infusion center. Thank you UCSF for an epic time and for helping me start my professional career with a solid foundation. I will miss you all and hope to see you in the near future. Cheers!



**Sue Lee
(PGY2 Critical Care)**

After graduating from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, I completed my PGY-1 residency at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital & Trauma Center. Pursuing and completing

my PGY2 residency in critical care at UCSF has truly been an amazing experience. It's been a challenging year, but I can't think of a more progressive, dynamic institution to foster professional and personal growth. With the support and guidance from all of my preceptors, mentors, co-residents, and program director, I have had an incredible experience, and for that I will always be grateful.

I look forward to staying on at UCSF and continuing to work with the wonderful group of preceptors and mentors I have learned so much from.

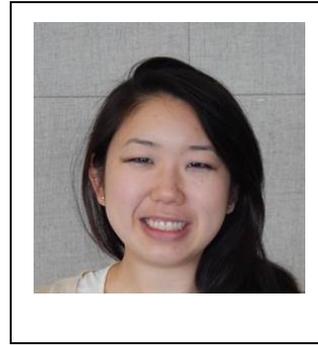
Thank you everyone for an amazing year!



**Sylvia Okrzesik
(PGY2 Pediatrics)**

I can't believe the end is already here! Five years ago I started my journey in pharmacy at Notre Dame of Maryland University School of Pharmacy. After completing a PGY-1

residency at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA I pursued a second year residency in pediatrics at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital. Coming here I knew I would attain a rewarding experience that would enable me to attain not only my personal goals but professional ones as well. During this year I had the privilege of working with amazing pharmacists that shared their wisdom, experiences, and clinical knowledge in their respective areas of expertise. I also had the opportunity to work alongside dedicated residents, physicians and nursing colleagues who motivated my passion for learning and advocating for my patients. It has been a wonderful journey this last year at UCSF and I am grateful for the amazing technicians and staff that made me feel like part of the family. I want to thank my co-residents, Sarah, Julie, Erin, Cathi, my mentors, the pharmacists and technicians I had the opportunity to work with, for your love and support throughout this year. As this year comes to an end I'm looking forward to traveling and spending time with my family in NJ but also coming back to UCSF as one of the pediatric pharmacists.



**Sunny Lu
(PGY1 Safeway/UCSF
Community Pharmacy)**

How time flies! I still remember the morning I received my residency match results. I was incredibly thrilled and still see that day as one of the

happiest moments of my pharmacy experience. After graduating from UCSF School of Pharmacy, I feel grateful to be given the opportunity to continue my training with the Safeway/UCSF PGY-1 Community Pharmacy Residency Program. The variety of experiences this year kept me busy and challenged me daily, but I always had the support I needed to achieve my goals. I feel very fortunate to have worked with the preceptors and mentors in my program to help me grow professionally and personally. I look forward to applying what I have learned and continuing to advocate for community pharmacy as I embark on future endeavors and stay on with Safeway