



## Spotlight on Stomach Cancer Symposium

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017 ~ COOPER AUDITORIUM

- 8:00 - 8:30 AM      **REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST**
- 8:30 - 8:45 AM      **Welcome & Announcements**  
*No Stomach For Cancer & City of Hope*
- Session I:**            **Technical Innovations in Gastric Cancer Care**  
*Moderator: Yanghee Woo, MD*
- 8:45 - 9:30 AM      **Keynote Presentation I: Yonsei Experience of Surgical Treatment for Gastric Cancer**  
*Woo Jin Hyung, MD, PhD*
- 9:30 - 9:50 AM      **Advances in Endoscopic Techniques for Detection and Treatment of Gastric Cancer**  
*James L. Lin, MD*
- 9:50 - 10:10 AM     **Immunotherapy Progress and Other Novel Therapies for Treatment of Gastric Cancer**  
*Yanghee Woo, MD*
- 10:10 - 10:20 AM    **Panel Discussion I**
- 10:20 - 10:35 AM    **MORNING BREAK**
- Session II:**            **Molecular Advancements in Gastric Cancer Care**  
*Moderators: James L. Lin, MD & Ilana Solomon, ScM, MA, LCGC*
- 10:35 - 11:20 AM    **Keynote Presentation II: Helicobacter, Hedgehog and Identifying Biomarkers of Gastric Metaplasia**  
*Juanita L. Merchant, MD, PhD*
- 11:20 - 11:40 AM    **Hereditary Gastric Cancer and Counseling for at Risk Patients**  
*Thomas Slavin, MD*
- 11:40 - 12:00 PM    **Expanding the Benefit: Genomics and Precision Medicine in Esophagogastric Cancers**  
*Samuel J. Klempner, MD*
- 12:00 - 12:10 PM    **Panel Discussion II**
- 12:10 - 12:40 PM    **LUNCH**

**Session III:**

**Optimal Gastric Cancer Care**

Moderators: Laleh Melstrom, MD, MS, FACS & Joseph Chao, MD

12:40 - 1:00 PM

**The Role of Surgery with a Multidisciplinary Gastric Cancer Care Model**

*Yanghee Woo, MD*

1:00 - 1:20 PM

**Radiation Treatment for Gastric Cancer**

*Yi-Jen Chen, MD, PhD*

1:20 - 1:40 PM

**Updates in Systemic and Targeted Therapies for Locally Advanced and Metastatic Disease**

*Joseph Chao, MD*

1:40 - 2:00 PM

**Palliative Procedures for Advanced Gastric Cancer**

*Hans F. Schoellhammer, MD, FACS*

2:00 - 2:30 PM

**Panel Discussion III**

2:30 - 2:45 PM

**AFTERNOON BREAK**

**Session IV:**

**Patient Centered Gastric Cancer**

Moderators: *Yanghee Woo, MD & Samuel J. Klempner, MD*

2:45 - 3:30 PM

**Victoria Soudaros's Journey**

*Victoria Soudaros, BA*

**Recovering from Stomach Cancer**

*David Roberts, JD*

3:30 - 3:50 PM

**Management of Symptoms and Stressors Associated with Gastric Cancer**

*Chandana Banerjee, MD, MPA*

3:50 - 4:20 PM

**Life after Gastrectomy**

*Sylvia Kim, FNP-BC*

4:20 - 4:40 PM

**Life During and After Chemotherapy**

*Sorin Buga, MD*

4:40 PM

**ADJOURN**



*City of Hope may find it necessary to substitute faculty with comparable expertise on those rare occasions necessitated by illness, unforeseen scheduling conflicts or extraordinary occurrences.*



## Yanghee Woo, M.D.

Yanghee Woo, M.D., is a surgeon scientist specially trained and internationally recognized in robotic surgery and gastric cancer. She has particular expertise in complex procedures such as D2 lymphadenectomy for locally advanced gastric cancer. Dr. Woo offers her patients completely laparoscopic and robotic surgeries (for stomach and pancreas tumors) with optimal oncologic outcomes while preserving patients' quality of life. She is one of very few surgeons who treat gastric cancer and pancreatic cancer using minimally invasive methods.

In addition to her clinical practice, Dr. Woo is also actively researching better ways to detect, treat and prevent gastric cancer. This includes improving robotic and laparoscopic surgeries, enhancing early detection and prevention efforts in high risk populations, and identifying biological, molecular and genetic markers that can lead to better treatment

planning. As a translational member of Dr. Yuman Fong's laboratory, she is part of the City of Hope team working to soon bring novel oncolytic viruses to our patients to cure cancer.



## Woo Jin Hyung, M.D., Ph.D.

Woo Jin Hyung, M.D., Ph.D., is the Gastric Cancer Center Director at Yonsei Cancer Hospital in Seoul, Korea. He also serves as the Chief of the Gastrointestinal Surgery Division and a Professor in the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Hyung specializes in gastric cancer surgery, especially in minimally invasive surgery for gastric cancer. His areas of research interest are surgical oncology, particularly gastric cancer and image-guided surgery.



## James L. Lin, M.D.

"The thing I love most about my job is ... at the end of the day I feel like I can say I really made a difference." An enthusiastic, energetic professional, James Lin, M.D., joined City of Hope in 2009 as Assistant Clinical Professor and Staff Physician in the Gastroenterology Division. He is highly experienced in the field of endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) and other advanced endoscopy services.

Dr. Lin studied at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He interned at University of California, Irvine and served a gastroenterology fellowship at John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County, Chicago, IL. Dr. Lin finds gastroenterology at City of Hope especially gratifying because it encompasses, in his words, "every step of the patient's care": diagnosis, staging, therapy and palliative treatment. A vocal advocate of screening tests, he is open to the use

of the new DNA stool test for colon cancer, if some patients refuse colonoscopy. "Ultimately the best colon cancer screening test is the one the patient is using," he says.





## **Ilana Solomon, Sc.M., M.A., L.C.G.C.**

Ilana Solomon, ScM, MA, LCGC is a board-certified genetic counselor focusing in cancer risk assessment. She graduated from the Johns Hopkins/ National Human Genome Research Institute Genetic Counseling Training Program in January 2013. Previously trained as an anthropologist, she also holds a master's degree in physical anthropology from New York University and a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Binghamton University. Ilana joined the City of Hope Division of Clinical Cancer Genetics in March of 2013.

Her past research focuses on the psychosocial impact of receiving Variants of Unknown Significance (VUS). She currently specializes in hereditary gastrointestinal syndromes focusing on hereditary gastric cancer. Ilana also has interests in patient-centered care, risk communication, the concept of uncertainty in healthcare and community outreach.



## **Juanita L. Merchant, MD, PhD**

Dr. Merchant is the H. Marvin Professor of Gastrointestinal Sciences. She grew up in Los Angeles, California. After completing high school, she ventured north to Stanford. Dr. Merchant completed her BS degree in Biology from Stanford University and both her MD and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University as part of the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP). She completed Internal Medicine residency and a post-residency research fellowship in Gastroenterology at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and then clinical fellowship training in Gastroenterology at UCLA. She was recruited to the University of Michigan in 1991 by the chair of Internal Medicine Dr. Tadataka Yamada. Her current appointments are in the Departments of Internal Medicine and Molecular & Integrative Physiology at The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is also faculty in the Cellular and Molecular Biology graduate program.

Dr. Merchant's primary research interests include transcriptional control mechanisms regulating cell growth and differentiation and microbial-host interactions in the gastrointestinal tract. She has published over 120 research publications and is the editor or co-editor of two books and several book chapters. In 2014, she received the AGA Research Mentor Award for mentoring trainees in the field of gastrointestinal regulatory peptides and cell signaling and the AGA's 2017 Distinguished Research Award. She was the 1998 recipient of the Funderburg Award in Gastric Cancer. She is well known for her seminal studies on the role of Hedgehog signaling in gastric homeostasis and transformation. Dr. Merchant is an active mentor for trainees through her service on several national advisory boards, including the Robert Wood Johnson-sponsored Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program and the advisory boards for NIH-sponsored Digestive Disease Centers at UCLA, Washington and Vanderbilt Universities and a U54 Cooperative Cancer Grant at SDSU-UC San Diego.

Juanita is a prior member of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) Advisory Council and the Council of Councils, which directly advises the current director of NIH, Dr. Frances Collins, on future trends for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She is the prior chair of the Gastrointestinal Cell and Molecular Biology NIH study section and served on the Glaxo-SmithKline sponsored Digestive Health (GIDH) review committee. She is a member of nine professional associations, including the Association of American Physicians (AAP) and the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI) for which she also served as one of four Councilors. She was inducted into the National Academy of Medicine in 2008 and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017.



## Thomas P. Slavin, M.D.

Thomas Slavin, M.D., is an accomplished physician specializing in identify hereditary diseases and syndromes, including genetic components of cancers – particularly gastrointestinal, genitourinary and rare cancers. Dr. Slavin completed his undergraduate degree and medical school training at the University of South Florida. Following medical school, he completed both a pediatric and a medical genetics residency program at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital/University Hospitals, Case Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio.

In residency, he completed research on hereditary cancer syndromes and identified novel genetic epidemiologic associations for coronary artery diseases and hypertension. Prior to City of Hope, Dr. Slavin was an assistant professor in John A. Burns School of Medicine in Honolulu, HI and a clinical geneticist in Hawaii Community Genetics.

Dr. Slavin has a particular research interest in preventative and personalized genomics, and epidemiology. He has multiple peer-reviewed publications and has presented at numerous national meetings.



## Samuel J. Klempner, MD

Dr. Samuel Klempner is a clinical and translational researcher with a focus on experimental therapeutics in solid tumors. As the director of the precision medicine program at The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, he works to exploit tumor genetic features to guide targeted therapies and combination immunotherapies. He is focused on GI malignancies and oncogene-driven tumors.

Dr. Klempner completed his residency in internal medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School, followed by a combined hematology-oncology fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center/Harvard Medical School. While at Harvard, Dr. Klempner studied the mechanisms of resistance to targeted therapies in tumor cells in the lab of Dr. Lewis Cantley, Ph.D. Dr. Klempner is board certified in medical oncology, hematology, and internal medicine.

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Before joining The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, Dr. Klempner served as an Assistant Clinical Professor in the division of Hematology-Oncology at the University of California Irvine. His research has been presented at major international meetings including the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), and published in prestigious journals such as the Journal of Clinical Oncology (JCO), Cancer Discovery, JAMA Oncology, Annals of Oncology and others.

Dr. Klempner is a dedicated clinician and patient advocate who works closely with other institutions to ensure his patients have the opportunity to benefit from the newest therapies and investigational approaches.





### **Joseph Chao, M.D.**

Named one of the “Top Doctors” for oncology by Pasadena magazine in 2011, Joseph Chao, M.D. joined City of Hope in 2007 as a Fellow and advanced rapidly to Staff Physician and Assistant Clinical Professor with expertise on gastrointestinal, stomach, esophageal and colorectal cancers. He is currently leading clinical trial efforts to develop novel therapies for gastroesophageal cancers and is also researching to discover new blood biomarkers for this disease.

Dr. Chao earned his medical degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago, then continued his training at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

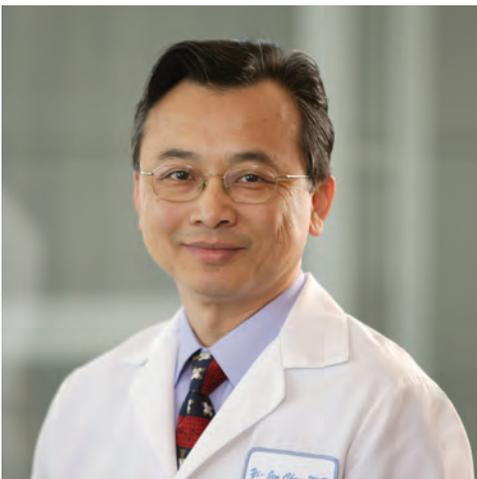


### **Laleh Melstrom, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.**

A talented surgeon and award-winning instructor and researcher, Laleh G. Melstrom, M.D. joined City of Hope in March of 2015, attracted by the opportunity to help develop breakthrough cures and treatments. “Really cutting-edge trials are offered here,” she says. “Research is not an afterthought.”

Educated at Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Melstrom received her medical degree from Cornell Medical College in New York City, continuing her training at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago and New York’s Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She held professorships at both Cornell and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, before arriving in California.

Laleh is certified in robotic surgery and specializes in the treatment of pancreatic cancer and melanoma. She has published dozens of scholarly articles and is a sought-after speaker at national conferences.



### **Yi-Jen Chen, M.D., Ph.D.**

Named a Top Doctor by Pasadena Magazine many times, Yi-Jen Chen, M.D., has been with City of Hope since 2002, following four years in the radiation oncology department at University of California, Irvine, Medical Center. Dr. Chen earned his medical degree at National Yang-Ming University in Taipei, Taiwan and received his Ph.D. from Tokyo Medical & Dental University.

His focus is on developing and improving radiation regimes for gastrointestinal and gynecologic cancers.

The son of a gastroenterologist, Dr. Chen learned from his father to “treat others like you treat your own.”





## Hans Schoellhammer, M.D., F.A.C.S.

An expert in melanoma, surgical oncologist Hans Schoellhammer, M.D., F.A.C.S., says his work gives him special satisfaction. “By working with one’s hands,” he says, “one can treat patients and have an immediate and dramatic impact on their health.” Dr. Schoellhammer is double board-certified in both surgery and complex surgical oncology. He earned his medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia. He completed general surgery training at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center as well as a research fellowship at John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica, before coming to City of Hope in 2012.

Working out of our Antelope Valley and Mission Hills practices, as well as at the City of Hope main campus in Duarte, California, Dr. Schoellhammer frequently publishes on new treatments for melanoma and other cancers.



## Victoria Soudaros

I was born in Thailand and am now living in sunny San Diego, CA. I am half Lao and Thai. My passion for food lives in my soul. Food has always been the center of our family gatherings. We had very little growing up, therefore my mother would create Lao and Thai dishes from whatever was in the pantry and refrigerator. I remember observing and learning how to cook from my mom as a child. For this reason, I consider myself a “self-taught” cook.

In August 2015, I was diagnosed with Gastric Cancer which caused my diet to change immediately. I was forced to cut my favorite Lao dishes, spicy foods, limit sugar intake and anything that was fermented. 2015 through 2016 was not fun in terms of food and life in general, but after a 15-month journey, I made it! Thanks to my family, fiancé and the amazing faculty at City of Hope.

Today, I am 100% CANCER FREE with a smaller stomach, slimmer figure, and living a peaceful life! After beating cancer, my lifestyle had to change- including eating habits and how I cook. Therefore, my blog Cooking with Vatsany was born! I figured if I’m re-creating recipes to better my life, why not share with others.





## David M. Roberts, JD

David M. Roberts was appointed as USC's first Vice President for Athletic Compliance in 2010, and he held that position through 2016. He currently serves as a Special Advisor to USC's President. While Vice president for Athletic Compliance, Roberts was responsible for managing all aspects of USC's athletic compliance program with NCAA, Pac-12 and university rules and regulations, working closely with the director of athletics. He has served on several NCAA Working Groups and is currently the Vice Chair of the NCAA's Committee on Infractions.

In February of 2017, Dave was diagnosed with stomach cancer. After a long and satisfying professional career, Dave faced the challenge of chemotherapy, radiation therapy, a total gastrectomy and his recovery from surgery. With the help of the City of Hope and its outstanding physicians, Dave is well on the way to returning to the life he knew before cancer.



## Chandana Banerjee, M.D., M.P.A.

Dr. Banerjee earned her undergraduate degree with honors from the University of Connecticut in Stamford. After receiving her Master's in Public Administration from NYU, she worked at Woodhull Medical Center as an assistant director in the Office of Compliance & Privacy Operations before joining Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc., as the director of Marketing & Community Relations. In 2007,

Dr. Banerjee went on to pursue a medical doctorate from Saba University School of Medicine in Netherlands Antilles, followed by an internship in the pediatric residency program at Albany Medical Center in New York. She continued her training with a residency in pediatrics at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center, where she also completed a fellowship in adult hospice and palliative medicine. Certified as an EPEC (Education in Palliative and End-of-life Care) trainer,

Dr. Banerjee is fluent in Hindi, Marathi, and Bengali. She is affiliated with a number of professional societies including the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, the American College of HealthCare Executives, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.





## Sylvia D. Kim MSN RN FNP-BC

Sylvia Kim is a Surgical Oncology Nurse Practitioner at City of Hope. She received her double degree of B.S. in Biology and B.A. in Psychology at UC Davis. She then pursued a nursing career and became a bedside nurse at City of Hope's surgical floor for 3 years. She transitioned to become a nurse practitioner and obtained Master's degree in Nursing from Azusa Pacific University. Her expertise is in the upper GI surgeries, including hepatobiliary and gastric surgeries.

With her personal history of immigration to America at the age of 10 and her trilingual abilities in English, Korean, and Spanish, Ms. Kim understands the importance of culturally competent and individual-tailored approach in medicine. She also loves to travel and enjoy outdoor activities to maintain a well-balanced life.



## Sorin Buga, M.D.

Sorin Buga, M.D., is board certified in internal medicine, and hospice and palliative medicine. He is City of Hope's representative in the NCCN Adult Cancer Pain Panel. He is an active member of many professional organizations including the American Academy of Pain Management, the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care. He has published in the peer-reviewed literature and has been invited to speak at several scientific meetings.

Dr. Buga earned his medical degree from the Universitatea de Medicina si Farmacie in Timisoara, Romania. He completed an internship and subsequent residency in internal medicine at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, where he served as the Chief Medical Resident. He went on to further his training and then completed a fellowship in

cancer pain and palliative care at the University of South Florida and the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, FL. He is fluent in Romanian and is known as a highly competent, kind and hardworking clinician and colleague. Dr. Buga is available by referral to help patients address issues of pain or other supportive care needs.

