

**Award: Distinguished Mid-Career Award Application :
Entry # 18622****I am nominating:**

A colleague

Basic Information**Your Name**

Matthew Lin MD

Your Title:

Surgery Clerkship Director

Your Institution

University of California San Francisco

Your EmailMatthew.Lin@ucsf.edu**Nominee Information****Name of Nominee:**

Hueylan Chern

Nominee's institution:

University of California San Francisco

Nominee's Title:

Professor of Surgery/Director of Surgical Skills Center

Nominee's email address

Hueylan.Chern@ucsf.edu

Short Essays**Please describe the nominee's approach to teaching (their personal philosophy of teaching).**

Dr. Chern's teaching philosophy is embedded in the concepts of safe learning environment, deliberate practice, peer assisted learning and cognitive load theory. She strives to create a safe environment for learners. In such an environment she believes learners can challenge themselves, discuss openly their understandings and develop their clinical reasoning skills along with their surgical skills. She has a strong commitment to deliberate practice. She designs learning activities that are scaffolded appropriately to allow the learner to advance on their own. Deliberate practice requires feedback. She is supportive of peer feedback. Her home practice platform requires receiving feedback from peers since she recognizes this is a way learners can grow. Also, learners often find the feedback from peers to be at a level of explanation aligned with their level of expertise. Her curricular design shows an awareness of cognitive load theory with matching the objectives of the learning with the appropriate level of intrinsic load. She sees the skills lab environment as ideal for fostering germane load of really understanding the surgical skill and the rationale for how to do it and why.

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Please describe something the nominee learned as a result of one of the educational development programs (such as the annual Surgical Education Week, Surgeons as Educators, or other programs) that they have attended that has changed the way they teach.

From the various theories noted in Dr. Chern's teaching philosophy Clearly, exposure to various theories has stimulated her teaching. Most recently, she has been interested in the flipped classroom model. Weekly she sends out resources so that learners can prepare in advance before entering the skills lab session for the week. She has found that this way she can increase the level of active engagement in the activities of the skills lab since the learners arrive better prepared to learn a new skill. She realizes that residents are busy, but this approach does yield a motivation to get involved with the session. She is maximizing active learning.

Please describe the nominee's scholarly work in surgical education including: teaching activities, curricular development, evaluation and assessment innovations, research, etc.

Dr. Chern's scholarly grants, presentations and publications center on surgical education. The work can be clustered in these areas:

- Surgical models: Dr. Chern has published on the numerous models that she has developed to help with acquisition of surgical skills. Importantly these are materials that make sense to learn the skill vs. replicating the OR. Therefore, the learner can acquire skills without excessive extraneous load.
- Home practice: This has been an area of focus across numerous skills. She has published about the home practice platform for knot tying and suturing. Currently, she is developing a home laparoscopic curriculum using the same platform.
- Structured skills rotation: Dr. Chern has developed a rotation for interns to achieve benchmark/proficiency levels in lap/open/robot skills. Her studies of this will be essential to inform other programs of the benefit of this kind of learning away from patient care.
- Peer learning: This is a theme in Dr. Chern's scholarship and is encapsulated in the skills coach medical student immersive experience. She uses the near peer teaching model to improve procedural teaching and also build teaching capacity for the school of medicine
- Robotic curriculum: Dr. Chern has long recognized the growth in robotic surgery and the need for standardize training curriculum for the residency. She has designed and published on curriculum using both dry lab and tissue lab that is creating a pathway for residents to obtain equivalency certificate. Additionally, she is exploring how to develop robotic curriculum appropriate for medical students.
- Preparing the next generation of surgical educators. She has established the surgical education fellowship providing a formal education research pathway for residents. With these residents, their mentors and interested students, she is fostering a community of surgical educators and researchers

Please describe a rewarding relationship the nominee had with a mentee including what they worked on and why it was gratifying.

Dr. Chern gets to work with all levels of learners and loves seeing how they develop and flourish both in the research setting as well as in the clinical work. Knowing someone's potential and getting to see one reach that potential is incredible to her. I can remember watching her with one resident as they explored what characterized intraoperative teaching. There were long discussions, sometimes loud ones, around a very battered white board as the ideas developed based on interviews the resident had conducted. Dr. Chern took pride as this resident took another resident into the project and expanded their findings to another surgical discipline. Finally, there are the ongoing meetings and celebrations at the annual ASE meetings with this residents development—she now is a vice chair of surgical education in her institution!

Additional Information

Please list the education leadership roles (eg, program director, skills lab director, etc) that the nominee has or has had within their own institution.

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2011 - 2019 UCSF Surgical Skills Center Associate Director, Surgical Skills Center

2012 - 2019 UCSF Milton J. Pearl and Leonard D. Rosenman Surgical Skills Center ACS AEI Surgical Director

2012 - 2019 UCSF School of Medicine Coda Course Co-Director

2018 - present UCSF School of Medicine CIEEx Course Director

2019 - present UCSF Milton J. Pearl and Leonard D. Rosenman Surgical Skills Center ACS AEI Education Institute Director

2019 - present UCSF Surgical Skills Center Director

2020 - present UCSF Surgical Simulation-based Education Fellowship Director

Please list the educational leadership roles (chair or co-chair of a committee, other formal leadership title) the nominee has or has had in any national and international education-related organizations.

2011 Invited Lecture, My Experience Learning High Resolution Anoscopy, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons 2011 Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada

2017 Invited Lecture, Opportunities for Collaboration in Surgery, MUHAS-UCSF Cancer Collaboration, United Republic of Tanzania

2015 Workshop, Building Your Educator Portfolio, 8th Annual American College of Surgeons Meeting of the Consortium of Accredited Education Institutes, Chicago, IL

2016 Quick Shot Presentation, Outcomes of colorectal surgery performed after solid organ transplant; a single center experience, 11th Annual Academic Surgical Congress 2016 Jacksonville, FL

2018 Show and tell mini sessions, Teaching knot tying and suturing: how to build strong foundations for technical success. Developing Medical Educators of the 21st Century, San Francisco, CA Feb 2018

2021 Moderator, SS33: Robotics/Advanced Technologies Session 2, SAGES, Las Vegas, Nevada Sept 2021

2022 Workshop, Expanding the Possibilities: Creating Remote Simulation for Health Professions Education. Developing Medical Educators of the 21st Century, February, 2022.

Please list any education awards or honors that the nominee has received.**HONORS AND AWARDS**

1995

Douglass College Honors Program

1997

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellowship for Undergraduate Research

1997

Golden Key National Honor Society

1997

PhiBeta Kappa

1999

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Summer Student Fellowship

2007

Haffenreffer House Staff Excellence Award

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2008

New Jersey Society of Colorectal Surgeons Resident Presentation Winner

2011

Fellow of the American College of Surgeons

2014

Fellow of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons

2014

The Haile T. Debas Academy of Medical Educators Excellence in Teaching Award

2016

UCSF Department of Surgery Medical Student Teaching Award

2020

UCSF Department of Surgery Junior Resident Teaching Award

2020

Haile T. Debas Academy of Medical Educators

2021

CIEx Finalist award

2021

Nomination GME Excellence and Innovation Award

2021

The Muriel Steele Society Surgery Honor Roll

2022

The Muriel Steele Society Surgery Honor Roll

File uploads:**CV**

- [Chern-CV_2022.pdf](#)

Please upload a letter of nomination by a resident, faculty, education administrator, or anyone else with knowledge of the nominee's teaching and educational scholarship.

- [Chern-LOS-from-OSullivan-for-ASE-mid-career.pdf](#)

Please upload no more than 2 letter(s) of support from leaders in education-related national/international organizations to demonstrate nominee's impact on surgical education.

- [Chern_H_by_Alseidi.pdf](#)

Please upload no more than 2 letter(s) of support from individuals mentored by the nominee.

- [MENTEE-LETTERS-OF-SUPPORT.pdf](#)

Please upload documentation of teaching excellence in the form of an aggregate evaluation report (from MedHub, New Innovations, etc) from learners over the past 6 - 12 months.

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- [Dr.-Chern.pdf](#)