



# IN THE LOUPES



THE MARYLAND  
NEUROSURGERY  
NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

01 Chairman's Message

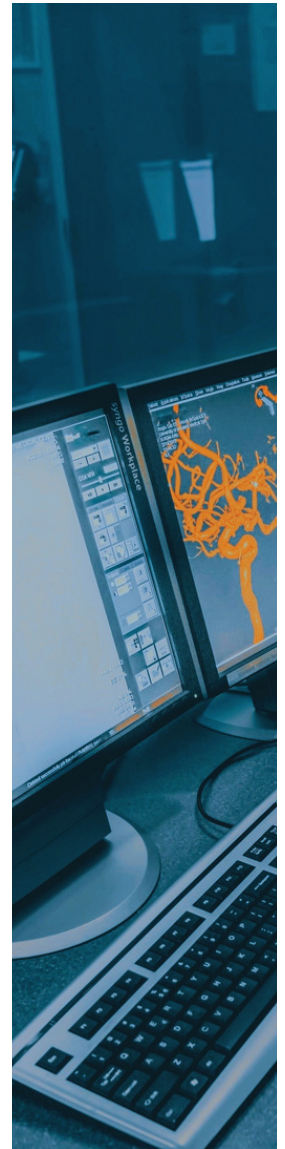
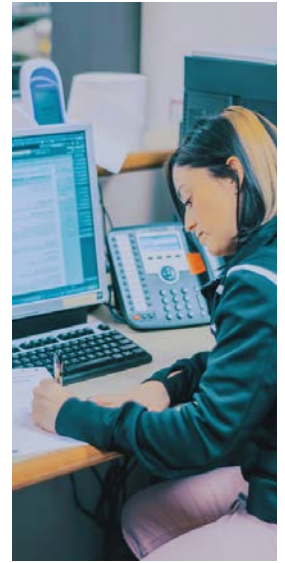
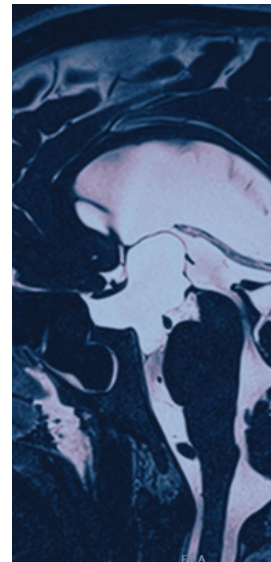
02 The Gold VA Pin Award Goes To...

03 Notable Publications

04 Staff Highlights!

### SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Interested in writing a column?  
Wanting to share what type of news  
you want to hear more of? Email  
[Neurosurgery.Communications@  
som.umaryland.edu](mailto:Neurosurgery.Communications@som.umaryland.edu)





## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Happy 2022! We are excited to turn the corner on a tumultuous 2021, and push towards many exciting new developments and initiatives in the Department. Some of these include: ongoing and new clinical trials with Focused Ultrasound, launching of the University of Maryland Neuroscience Network, and recruits of new faculty members. Stay tuned to 'In The Loupes' for more details over the year, and please continue to provide feedback and content.

Onward and thank you!

Graeme Woodworth, MD

## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

### NEW STAFF



### DR. PENGHUA YANG, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AT SIMARD LAB

[pyang2@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:pyang2@som.umaryland.edu)

Dr. Penghua Yang is an experienced research scientist. He received his PhD in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry and started his career in the field of human reproductive medicine. He has more than 10 years of experience in Molecular Biology and Cell Biology and has authored more than 20 publications. Now his interest focuses on membrane ion channel regulation in acute CNS diseases including stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, traumatic brain and spinal cord injury. *Welcome to the team, Dr. Yang!*

### VISITING SUB-I'S



**Ryan Thompson, MS4**

[Ryan.thompson@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:Ryan.thompson@som.umaryland.edu)



**Florian Stumpf, MS4**

[Florian.Stumpf@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:Florian.Stumpf@som.umaryland.edu)

### VISITING RESIDENCY APPLICANTS



**Adam Glaser**

SOM: Dartmouth



**Michelle Miller**

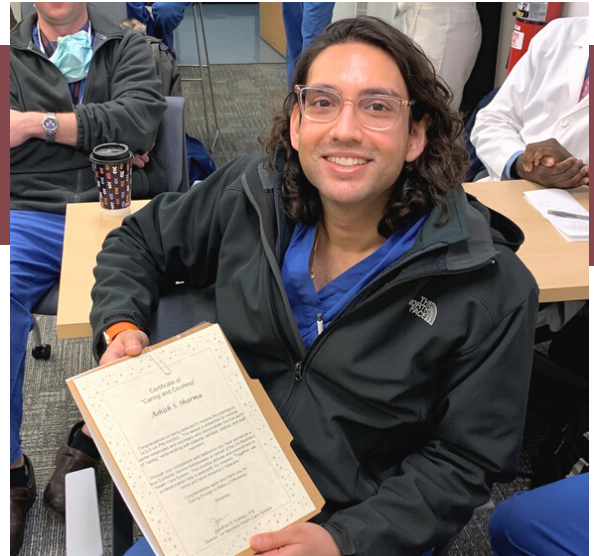
SOM: UCLA



## RESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

### *Phenomenal Work, Ashish!*

Over the last six months as VA Chief, **Ashish Sharma, MD, PGY-5**, has been recognized by the VA for his hard work, compassion, dedication, and patient care, and was awarded with the Gold VA Pin Award. This award is presented to medical center employees and volunteers who demonstrate the true spirit of "caring," while working with patients, families, visitors, and staff members. *Phenomenal work, Ashish! You truly embodied the Department's core values, and defining what it takes to be a top-notch Neurosurgeon!*



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

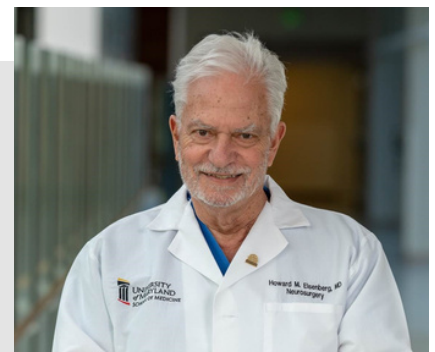


### *Dr. Sansur Partners with Seattle Science Foundation!*

Since August, **Dr. Charles Sansur** has been making his YouTube debut! Partnering with the Seattle Science Foundation, he has presented some amazing talks and demonstrations such as "Failed Back Syndrome" and "C1, C2 Pedicle Screws." You can check the videos on YouTube [here!](#) You also don't want to miss Dr. Sansur's upcoming presentation, also hosted by SSF, on February 4th for the Virtual Spine Journal Club from 9 AM to 10 AM (EST).

### *Dr. Eisenberg's Exclusive Interview!*

**Dr. Howard Eisenberg** was interviewed for Focused Ultrasound Foundation in their featured *Investigator Profile* article, published on January 13th! The interview focuses on Dr. Eisenberg's background with Focused Ultrasound and his team's current research and clinical offerings for commercial patients. Check out the full interview [here!](#)



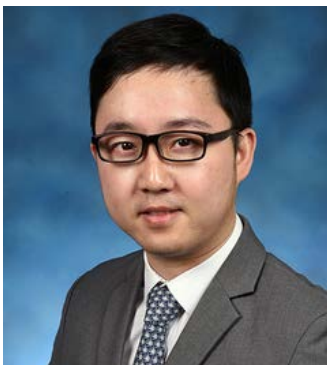


# PUBLICATIONS



**Riccardo Serra, MD, PGY-2**, was the first author in two major publications! A Translational Science Research article titled: "Combined Intracranial Acriflavine, Temozolomide and Radiation Extends Survival in a Rat Glioma Model" featured in *European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics* [here](#). The second was a research article, titled: "Disulfiram and copper combination therapy targets NPL4, cancer stem cells and extends survival in a medulloblastoma model," published in *PlosONE*, which can be accessed [here](#).

**Drs. Anthony Kim and Jeff Winkles** were the corresponding authors to a review article titled: "Harnessing nanomedicine for enhanced immunotherapy for breast cancer brain metastases," published in the *Drug Delivery and Translational Research* journal. You can access the journal [here](#).



**Dr. Chixiang Chen** published two math-biostatistics articles. The first article, titled: "A statistical framework for recovering pseudo-dynamic networks from static data," was published in *Bioinformatics*, which can be read [here](#). The second publication is titled: "Improving Main Analysis by Borrowing Information from Auxiliary Data," which can be accessed in the *Statistics in Medicine* journal found [here](#).

**Drs. Abdul-Kareem Ahmed, PGY-4, Howard Eisenberg, Timothy Miller, Dheeraj Gandhi, and team** quantify for the first time the technical differences in performing a focused ultrasound thalamotomy and pallidotomy. Titled: "Technical comparison of treatment efficiency of magnetic resonance-guided focused ultrasound thalamotomy and pallidotomy in skull density ratio-matched patient," published in *Frontiers in Neurology* journal, which can be accessed [here](#).





# PRESENTATIONS



**Dr. Bizhan Aarabi** was invited to speak Wednesday, January 19th, hosted by AO North America, on the topic of Spinal Cord Injuries! Dr. Aarabi also went into detail about what surgical techniques are used for in order to achieve a complete decompression of the spinal cord, as well as what is currently known about this procedure.

The Section of Neurological Surgery at the University of Puerto Rico – Medical Sciences Campus is organizing a Trauma Grand Rounds, and has invited Dr. Aarabi to be a guest speaker! The event will take place virtually, on Friday, April 22, 2022 at 1:30 PM.



## STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

The whole staff is very professional!

*Crystal Bond is an exceptional assistant! I love her and Dr. Crandall! ❤️*

The nurse was very kind and considerate, and she was trying to make me even more comfortable based on her knowledge of my physical condition. I was very pleased!

# JANUARY 2022

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri, January 7 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	<b>MATCH Interviews</b> <i>In-Person &amp; Zoom</i>
Fri, January 28 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	<b>MATCH Interviews</b> <i>In-Person &amp; Zoom</i>
Fri, February 4 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>SSF Virtual Spine Club w/ Dr. Sansur</b> <i>In-Person &amp; Zoom</i>
Tue, February 8 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>SSF Interesting Spine Discussion</b> <i>In-Person &amp; Zoom</i>

### JAN. GRAND ROUNDS

Thu, January 6 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Guest Speaker: Dr. Chris Maulucci</b> <i>12th Floor &amp; Zoom</i>
Thu, January 13 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Guest Speaker: Dr. Athar Malik</b> <i>12th Floor &amp; Zoom</i>
Thu, January 20 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Dept. of Surgery Presentation</b> <i>12th Floor &amp; Zoom</i>
Thu January 27 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>M&amp;M w/ Dr. Gary Schwartzbauer</b> <i>12th Floor &amp; Zoom</i>

### January

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### Holidays

#### **New Year's Day**

Saturday, January 1, 2022

#### **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Monday, January 17, 2022



# HAVE A STORY YOU WANT TO SHARE?

We are looking for stories, achievements, heroics, tidbits, and fun stuff to feature in *In the Loupes* and to share within University of Maryland and our surrounding communities. If you are interested in writing a column or want to share what type of news you want to hear more, feel free to email at [rcmcgowan@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:rcmcgowan@som.umaryland.edu)



If you would like to submit your news via the Neurosurgery News Portal, scan the QR code or copy and paste the link below into your browser.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE MARYLAND NEUROSURGERY NEWS PORTAL!](#)



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

