



Association of Women Surgeons

Signature Speaker Series Directory

With the generous grant support from Intuitive, AWS will provide funding up to \$1000 towards defraying travel costs for a sponsored speaking engagement at either a national or regional event outside the speaker's current location.

2025 Signature Speaker Series Cohort



Tanya Anand, MD, MPH



Abbey Fingeret,
MD, PhD



Carmen Fong, MD



Annabelle Fonseca, MD



Danielle Holt, MD



Amanda Kirane, MD



Lauren Kopicky, DO



Shannon F.R.
Small, MD, FACS



Irlna Tantchou, MD



Tanya Anand, MD

Institution: University of Arizona

Areas of Expertise: Trauma, Surgical Critical Care, Burns, Emergency General Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Hemorrhage
- Post-intubation Hypotension
- Endotheliopathy of Trauma
- Metabolomics
- Resuscitation in Trauma
- Geriatric Trauma
- Precision Medicine in Trauma

Contact:

tanyaanand@arizona.edu



Abbey Fingeret, MD, PhD

Institution: University of Nebraska Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Endocrine Surgery; Surgical Education

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Building Habits for Effective Teaching
- Generational Differences in Teaching and Learning
- Emotional Intelligence & Maximizing your EQ for Personal and Professional Success
- Engaging Your Audience: Evidence Based High Impact Presentation Skills

Contact:

Abbey.Fingeret@unmc.edu



Carmen Fong, MD

Institution: Hemorrhoid Centers of America

Areas of Expertise: Constipation, Proctology/Anorectal Disease, Colorectal Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- From Academic Surgeon to Private Practice/Entrepreneur: Insights and Strategies
- Constipation Nation: Writing, Researching, Publishing and Marketing a Book
- Go When You Have to Go: Helping Patients with Constipation
- Hemorrhoids, Fissures and Fistulas, Oh My!: Current Management of Anorectal Disease
- Becoming a Surgeon-Mom at 40: Fertility, IVF, and Parenting

Contact:

carmen.f.fong@gmail.com



Annabelle Fonseca, MD

Institution: University of Alabama at Birmingham

Areas of Expertise: Surgical Oncology, Hepatopancreatobiliary, Health Services Research, Disparities Research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Foregut Cancer
- Access to Cancer Care
- Guideline Concordant Treatment of Foregut Cancers

Contact:
annabelle.fonseca@gmail.com



Danielle Holt, MD

Institution: Uniformed Services University

Areas of Expertise: Talent Management, Admissions, Recruitment, General Surgery, Hernia, Robotics, Military Surgical Readiness

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Military Physician Applicants for UME Through Faculty
- Medical School Admissions and Recruitment
- Military Surgical Readiness

Contact:
danielle.holt@usuhs.edu



Amanda Kirane, MD

Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine

Areas of Expertise: Melanoma, Translational Science, Immunology, Immunotherapy

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Surgical Science & Translational Medicine
- Next Generation Spatial-omic Technologies
- Immunotherapy
- Machine Learning and Modeling for Personalized Medicine
- Macrophage Biology
- Neoadjuvant Therapy
- Cell Therapy (TIL) for Solid Tumors
- Scientific leadership and team science

Contact:
akirane@stanford.edu



Lauren Kopicky, DO

Institution: Cleveland Clinic

Areas of Expertise: Breast Surgical Oncology, Breast Ultrasound, Image Guided Breast Biopsies and Procedures, Oncoplastic Surgical Techniques including Aesthetic Flat Closure and Goldilocks Mastectomy, Mentorship, Breast Billing and Coding

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Benign and Malignant Breast Disease
- Breast Ultrasound
- Breast Biopsies and Procedures
- Oncoplastic Breast Surgery
- Breast Billing and Coding

Contact:
lauren.kopicky@gmail.com



Shannon F.R. Small, MD, FACS

Institution: Yale University Health System

Areas of Expertise: Trauma, Critical Care, Emergency Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Care of the Female Surgical Patient
- Consideration for Breastfeeding
- Care of Elderly or Pediatric Trauma Patients
- Use of Robotic Surgery in Emergency Surgery
- Importance of Inclusive Excellence in Resident Education

Contact:
shannon.small@yale.edu



Irlna Tantchou, MD

Institution: Highlands Oncology Group

Areas of Expertise: Colorectal Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Growing Robotic Practice
- Empowering Younger Female Surgeons Resilience and Grit
- Academic Capacity in Private Practice
- How to Become Affiliated with Industry

Contact:
irlnatantchou@gmail.com

2024 Signature Speaker Series Cohort



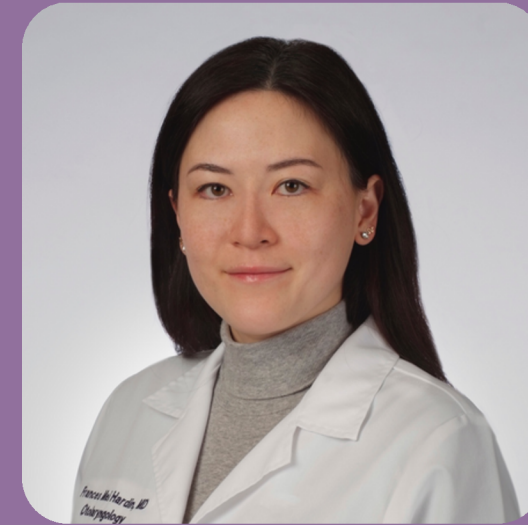
Shannon Foster, MD



Erin Garvey, MD



Christa Grant, MD



Frances Mei Hardin, MD



Nimmi Kapoor, MD



Lindsey Kilgore, MD



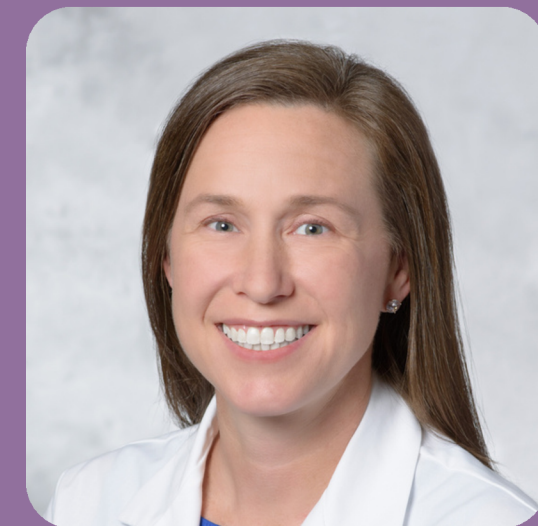
Madhuri Rao, MD



Kathryn Rowland, MD



Umut Sarpel, MD



Stephanie Worrell, MD



Shannon Foster, MD

Institution: SMF Facilitation Services, SMF Consulting Services, Divisions of SMF Coverage & Solutions, LLC

Areas of Expertise: Strategic Assessments, Career Building, Conflict Resolution, Workplace Dynamics, Communications Training, Advocacy and Activism, Leadership Development, Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Leadership and Development Series
- Communications 101 for Surgeons
- Accountability and Transparency
- The Hard Truths of Medicine
- Learn How to Carve Your Own Career Path
- Turning Conflict into Opportunity
- Simple Steps and Behaviors to Prevent Career Mistakes

Contact:
shannonfostermd@gmail.com



Erin Garvey, MD

Institution: Phoenix Children's Hospital

Areas of Expertise: Personal Finance, Physician Disability, Wellness

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Personal Finance
- Physician Disability,
- Wellness
- Supporting Lactating Physicians
- Trainees

Contact:
erinmgarvey@gmail.com



Christa Grant, MD

Institution: Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Neuroblastoma, Pediatric Surgical Oncology, Global Surgery, General Pediatric Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Neuroblastoma
- Pediatric Surgical Oncology
- Global Surgery
- General Pediatric Surgery

Contact:
christagrantomd@gmail.com



Frances Mei Hardin, MD

Institution: Hippocratic Collective

Areas of Expertise: Sinus and allergy, endocrine surgery, laryngology

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Interpersonal Effectiveness Skills
- Distress Tolerance for Medical Trainees,
- Changing the Culture of Medicine & Medical Training
- ENT topics

Contact:
frances.mei.hardin@gmail.com



Nimmi Kapoor, MD

Institution: UCLA Medical Center - Los Angeles, CA

Areas of Expertise: Breast Cancer, Breast Ultrasound, Cryoablation, Resident Education

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Surgical Innovation in Breast Cancer
- Unconventional Career Paths
- Pregnancy and Breast Cancer Considerations
- Granulomatous Mastitis
- Breast Cancer Problems for the Primary Care Provider
- Ultrasound as a Tool for Surgical Innovation

Contact:
nskapoor@mednet.ucla.edu



Lyndsey Kilgore, MD

Institution: The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Areas of Expertise: Breast Cancer, Lymphedema, Lymphatic Reconstruction, High risk breast lesions, De-escalation of surgery , Surgical Education Curriculum, Career Development, Life and Career

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Surgical Management of Breast Cancer
- Breast Basics
- Breast Cancer-related Lymphedema
- Developing and Implementing a Breast Cancer Prevention Program
- High-risk Breast Lesions: To Cut or Not
- Surgical Education Curriculum
- Surgical Residency and Beyond

Contact:
Lyndseyk514@gmail.com



Madhuri Rao, MD

Institution: U of M Thoracic and Foregut Surgery

Areas of Expertise: Lung malignancies Non small cell and small cell lung cancer, Mesothelioma, Benign and malignant esophageal diseases, SUBxiphoid approach to thymectomy and mediastinal tumors

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- New techniques and Innovations in Thoracic Surgery
- Subxiphoid Thymectomy
- Robotic Thoracic Surgery
- Non-Intubated Thoracoscopic Surgery
- Women of Color in Medicine
- Lung cancer screening,
- My journey

Contact:
mvrao@umn.edu



Kathryn Rowland, MD

Institution: University of Chicago

Areas of Expertise: Pediatric Surgery, Character Education

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Character Cultivation in Medical Education
- Humanism in Surgery
- Human Flourishing
- Women in Surgery

Contact:
krowland2@bsd.uchicago.edu



Umut Sarpel, MD

Institution: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Surgical Oncology

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- HIPEC
- Surgical Education
- DEI
- Women in Surgery
- Robotic Surgery

Contact:
usarpel@bidmc.harvard.edu



Stephanie Worrell, MD

Institution: University of Arizona

Areas of Expertise: Thoracic Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Esophageal Cancer
- Mentorship
- Foregut Disease
- Robotic Thoracic Surgery

Contact:

sworrell@arizona.edu

2023 Signature Speaker Series Cohort



Melissa Chang, MD



Nicole Goulet, MD



Caitlin Hicks, MD



Kelsey Larson, MD



Kathryn Martin, MD



Maureen
O'Shuaghnessy, MD



Chantal Reyna, MD



Sarah Rodriguez, MD



Minerva
Romero Arenas, MD



Ming-Li Want, MD



Melissa Chang, MD

Institution: Trinity Health Ann Arbor Hospital

Areas of Expertise: Robotic surgery, CRS (benign and malignant), pelvic floor

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Robotic Surgery
- Women in Surgery
- Surgical Education

Contact:
mchangtang@gmail.com



Nicole Goulet, MD

Institution: Weill Cornell Medicine

Areas of Expertise: DEI efforts in surgery, LGBTQ+ inclusivity in surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- DEI Efforts in Surgery
- LGBTQ+ Inclusivity in Surgery

Contact:
ngouletmd@gmail.com



Caitlin Hicks, MD

Institution: Johns Hopkins Hospital

Areas of Expertise: Value-based care, PAD, Carotid disease, TAAA, Research & Mentoring

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Value-based Care in Vascular Surgery
- Carotid Disease Management
- Opportunities in Research & Mentoring

Contact:
chicks11@jhmi.edu



Kelsey E. Larson, MD

Institution: University of Kansas

Areas of Expertise: Breast Cancer

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer
- Research

Contact:

klarson6@kumc.edu



Kathryn Martin, MD

Institution: Maria Fareri Children's Hospital
at Westchester Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Pediatric Surgery,
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI)

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Diversity Equity Inclusion - Race, Gender, LGBTQ+
- Health Disparities

Contact:

kathrynmartinmd@gmail.com



Maureen O'Shaughnessy, MD

Institution: University of Kentucky

Areas of Expertise: Hand Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Hand Surgery - Ulnar Wrist Pain
- Distal Radius Fractures
- Arthroplasty
- Arthroscopy
- Mentoring Females in Orthopedic Surgery

Contact:

maoshaugh@gmail.com



Chantal Reyna, MD

Institution: Loyola University Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Program Building and Mentoring

- **AWS Speaker Series Topics:**
Mentoring/Sponsoring Across Generations
- Practice and Program Building
- Early Career Building
- Professional Identity and Personal Branding

Contact:
creynamd@gmail.com



Sarah Rodriguez, MD

Institution: The University of Chicago

Areas of Expertise: Retinopathy of Prematurity

- AWS Speaker Series Topics:**
- Global Health
 - Policy Changes
 - Prevention of Pediatric Blindness

Contact:
srodriguez5@bsd.uchicago.edu



Minerva Romero Arenas, MD

Institution: Weill Cornell Medicine | NYP
Brooklyn Methodist Hospital

Areas of Expertise: Endocrine surgery,
General surgery

- AWS Speaker Series Topics:**
- Endocrine Surgery
 - Opioid Prescribing
 - DEI
 - Surgical Education

Contact:
Minervies@gmail.com



Ming-Li Wang, MD

Institution: University of New Mexico

Areas of Expertise: Surgical Education,
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Faculty Development in Bystander Training
- Resident Evaluation and Feedback
- Cultural Competency and Dexterity in Surgery

Contact:

mlwang@salud.unm.edu

2022 Signature Speaker Series Cohort



Stephanie Bonne, MD



Christy Chai, MD



Emily Keung, MD



Kimberly Lumpkins, MD



Jennifer Plichta, MD



Joon Shim, MD



Erin Stevens, MD



Stephanie Bonne, MD

Institution: Advocate Christ Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Trauma Prevention, Trauma Systems, Gun Violence Prevention, Violence Intervention

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Women in Surgery,
- Public Health Careers
- Trauma-Informed Care

Contact:
stephanie.bonne@aah.org



Christy Chai, MD

Institution: Baylor College of Medicine, Michael E DeBakey Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology

Areas of Expertise: Surgical Oncology, Robotic Surgery, Clinical Research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Wellness & Burnout
- Diversity/Equity/Inclusion
- Robotic Surgery
- Cancer Prevention & Survivorship

Contact:
christy.chai@bcm.edu
christy.chai@va.gov



Emily Keung, MD

Institution: The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Areas of Expertise: Surgical oncology, soft tissue sarcoma, immunotherapy, cancer epigenomics, cutaneous malignancies

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Soft Tissue Sarcoma
- Immunotherapy
- Translational Research
- Clinical Research

Contact:
ekeung@mdanderson.org



Kimberly Lumpkins, MD

Institution: University of Maryland School of Maryland

Areas of Expertise: Pediatric surgery, personal development

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Personal Mission Statement
- Time Management
- Interviewing and Hiring

Contact:

KLumpkins@som.umaryland.edu



Jennifer Plichta, MD

Institution: Duke University Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: Breast surgery, breast cancer, breast cancer risk

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical Outcomes Research
- Mentorship

Contact:

jennifer.plichta@duke.edu



Joon K. Shim MD

Institution: Bassett Healthcare Network

Areas of Expertise: Bariatric/Foregut Surgery, Surgical Education, Surgical Humanities, Leadership Curriculum, Rural Surgery, Combat Surgery

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Development of Surgical Education Curricula
- Rural Surgery
- Surgical Humanities
- Innovation
- Leadership Curriculum
- Combat Surgery
- Bariatrics/Foregut

Contact:

joon.shim@bassett.org



Erin E. Stevens, MD

Institution: Prevea Health, Division of
Gynecologic Oncology, HSHS St Vincent
Cancer Center

Areas of Expertise: Surgical oncology,
women's health

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Gynecologic Oncology
- Women's Health
- Rural Cancer Care
- End of Life
- Collaborating Across Specialties
- Cancer Myths

Contact:

erin.e.stevens@gmail.com

2021 Signature Speaker Series Cohort



Tania Arora, MD



Letitia Bradford, MD



Elizabeth David, MD



Marion Henry, MD



Cassandra Kelleher, MD



Anjali Kumar, MD



Patricia Numann, MD



Heena Santry, MD



NAsreen Vohra, MD



Grace Wang, MD



Tanya Zakrison, MD



Tania Arora, MD, FACS

Institution: Augusta University

Areas of Expertise: Surgical Oncology, Surgical Education

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Diversity and Inclusion in Surgical Departments and Institutions
- Development of Surgical Education Curricula
- Clinical Outcomes Research

Contact:
tarora@augusta.edu



Letitia Bradford MD, FAAOS

Institution: University of Nevada School of Medicine, Department of Surgery

Areas of Expertise: Orthopedic surgery, disparities research, diversity

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Wellness
- Basic Sciences
- Mentorship
- eGaming/eSports

Contact:
drlbradford@nthdimensions.org



Elizabeth A. David, MD, MAS, FACS

Institution: University of Southern California

Areas of Expertise: Thoracic surgery, disparities research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical Research
- Wellness
- Women in Surgery
- Health Services Research

Contact:
elizabeth.david@med.usc.edu



Marion Henry, MD

Institution: University of Chicago

Areas of Expertise: Pediatric surgery, surgical education, surgical advocacy

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical Research
- Translational Research
- Wellness

Contact:
mcwhmd@gmail.com



Cassandra Kelleher, MD

Institution: Massachusetts General Hospital

Areas of Expertise: Pediatric surgery, clinical outcome research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical Research
- Surgical Disparities
- Surgical Appropriateness

Contact:
ckelleher3@partners.org



Anjali Kumar, MD

Institution: Washington State University

Areas of Expertise: Colon and rectal surgery, clinical research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Young Surgeon/Young Investigator Issues, Leadership
- Clinical Research
- Wellness
- Career Transitions (starting a new practice, transitioning practice, taking a leave of absence, termination, working part-time, re-entry pathways)

Contact:
anju@wsu.edu



Patricia Numann MD

Institution: SUNY Upstate Medical University

Areas of Expertise: General surgery, surgical education

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Wellness

Contact:

numannp@upstate.edu



Heena Santry, MD

Institution: Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

Areas of Expertise: General surgery, clinical outcome research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical Research
- Translational Research

Contact:

heena.santry@osumc.edu



Nasreen Vohra, MD, FACS

Institution: Brody School of Medicine East Carolina University

Areas of Expertise: General Surgery, complex surgical oncology (gastrointestinal malignancies, peritoneal surface malignancies, melanoma, Merkel cell carcinoma), translational Research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical research
- Wellness
- Translational Research
- Gastrointestinal and Cutaneous Malignancies, Regional Therapy
- Disparities

Contact:

vohran@ecu.edu



Grace Wang, MD

Institution: Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Areas of Expertise:

Vascular surgery, Clinical outcome research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Clinical Research
- Wellness

Contact:

Grace.Wang@uphs.upenn.edu



Tanya Zakrison, MD

Institution: University of Chicago Medicine

Areas of Expertise: General surgery, disparities research

AWS Speaker Series Topics:

- Translational Research
- Clinical Research

Contact:

tzakrison@surgery.bsd.uchicago.edu