

Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center



Advisory Board Manual



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Overview



Founded in 1980, the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center is an internationally recognized facility and the first of its kind to provide services to adults with congenital heart disease. Congenital heart defects are one of the most common types of birth defects in the United States. The center seeks to improve outcomes for patients through leading-edge clinical care, groundbreaking research, outreach activities and innovative education.

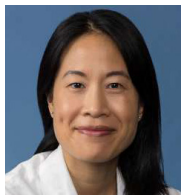
Meet the faculty



Jamil Aboulhossn, M.D.

*Director, Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center
Streisand Chair in Cardiology*

Dr. Aboulhossn, a distinguished physician-scientist, specializes in adult congenital heart disease (ACHD), structural interventional cardiology and heart disease in pregnancy. He completed his medical degree, residency, and fellowships in cardiovascular disease and ACHD at UCLA. Dr. Aboulhossn is a member of the writing committee for the American College of Cardiology/ American Heart Association Guidelines on Adult Congenital Heart Disease and is the chairman of the American Board of Internal Medicine ACHD Board Examination Committee. He is also actively involved with Camp del Corazon, a free camp for children with heart disease. While Dr. Aboulhossn is a decorated international leader in adult congenital heart disease, he recognizes the importance of treating each patient as a unique individual, providing compassionate care to each person he sees.



Jeannette Lin, M.D.

*Director, Adult Congenital
Heart Disease Fellowship
Professor, Medicine*

Dr. Lin received her medical degree from the University of California, San Diego, and completed her residency at UC San Diego, cardiology fellowship at the University of California, Irvine, and ACHD fellowship at UCLA. She has been a faculty member at the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center since 2012. Dr. Lin provides care for ACHD patients, with a special focus on echocardiography. As the director of the UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Fellowship, she oversees all aspects of medical education for the center. In addition, she is co-director of the Cardio-Obstetrics Program at UCLA.



Leigh Reardon, M.D.

Professor, Clinical Medicine and Pediatrics

Dr. Reardon's practice is in pediatric cardiology and adult congenital heart disease.

He received his medical degree at the University of Virginia, and he completed his residency at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and fellowships in pediatric cardiology and ACHD at UCLA. Dr. Reardon has a specific interest in heart failure, transplantation, mechanical support, and the care of adolescents and young adults as they transition from the pediatric to the adult clinical setting.



Gentian Lluri, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Lluri received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Vermont. He completed his residency at the University of Illinois Chicago and fellowship training in cardiovascular disease as well

as ACHD training at UCLA, joining the faculty shortly thereafter. Dr. Lluri's clinical and research goals are to improve the lives and advance the care of patients with congenital heart disease.



Jeremy P. Moore, M.D., M.S.

Dr. Moore is a congenital electrophysiologist and has been a member of the UCLA faculty since 2010. He received his medical degree from the VCU College of Health Professions and completed

his residency and fellowship in pediatric cardiology at UCLA. Dr. Moore then went to Vanderbilt University to gain subspecialty expertise in pediatric electrophysiology. He is board certified in pediatrics, pediatric cardiology, adult congenital heart disease and electrophysiology. He is also a board-certified cardiac device specialist. Dr. Moore cares for patients with congenital and acquired disorders of cardiac rhythm, with a special emphasis on the management of complex rhythm disorders in adults with congenital heart disease. He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the Heart Rhythm Society. He serves as section editor for the *Journal of American College of Cardiology* and *JACC Clinical Electrophysiology*. Dr. Moore is also co-chair of the Pediatric and Congenital Electrophysiology Society/International Society for Adult Congenital Heart Disease Electrophysiology Research Consortium.

Administrative support

Yuri Argueta, Operations Manager
Evelyn Carpio, Fellowship Coordinator
Maggie Follmer, Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Jose, Administrative Manager
Veronica Olmedo, Medical Coordinator
Miriam Silva, Center Support Representative

Development

Lindsey Walton
Senior Director of Development, Cardiovascular Medicine
424-946-6102
lswalton@mednet.ucla.edu

About the board

Primary objectives

Members of the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center advisory board have three main roles: advisors, ambassadors and philanthropic supporters of the center.

- **Advisors:** provide advice and counsel to the center director on strategic campaign planning and promotional initiatives. Members serve as a sounding board, representing the standpoint of patients, advocates and friends.
- **Ambassadors:** communicate, endorse and champion the interests and philanthropic priorities of the center to other groups at UCLA, in addition to business and personal networks.

- **Philanthropic supporters:** invest in the center's philanthropic priorities using personal resources and identify and engage other supporters through peer-to-peer outreach, board recruitment and event networking.

Membership qualifications

Members must have a strong interest in advocating for the health of adults with congenital heart disease and advancing the mission of the center. Philanthropy has been crucial in upholding the center's international reputation for excellence over the past three decades; the support of the board is crucial to its continued leadership in the field. Membership is by invitation from the center director.

Participation requirements

- Attendance at up to two board meetings with faculty per year
- Presence at regular virtual update meetings with board members and development staff
- Ongoing advocacy and ambassadorship
- Meaningful philanthropic support

Term

Three-year term with option to renew commitment

Dues

Minimum of \$15,000 annually (give or get)

Benefits

As a member of the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center advisory board, you will enjoy a range of unique opportunities and privileges, including:

Influence and impact

Become a thought leader and help shape the future of the center through strategic insight.

Special invitations

Receive exclusive invitations to events where you can connect with faculty, staff and fellow board members.

Health care industry insight

Attend an annual in-person meeting featuring updates from faculty on clinical advances, research, the fellowship program and key staff initiatives. Gain valuable insight into health care trends and policy developments affecting the center and UCLA Health.

Newsletter access

Enjoy early access to the biannual Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center newsletter before publication, with the opportunity to contribute content and provide feedback.

Community and networking

Help build and strengthen the ACHD community by engaging with patients, families and other stakeholders at UCLA and across the broader ACHD network.

Meaningful engagement

Cultivate a sense of gratitude and belonging by participating in initiatives that make a lasting impact.

Current board members

Thomas Bliss

Born in Hollywood, Tom spent his career in entertainment, producing more than thirty films, including *Air Force One*, *Bring It On*, *Children of Men*, *Dawn of the Dead*, *Spy Game*, *Thirteen Days*, *The Family Man*, *The Hurricane* and *A Life in the Theatre*.

Tom attended the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television and the UCLA School of Law. He serves on the board of directors of the Santa Monica Mountains Fund and the Fund for People in Parks. Tom is a founding member of the board of advisors of the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center and has been a patient of the center almost from its inception. Tom is a member of the Directors Guild of America and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Heidi Burns Hilton

Heidi was born with transposition of the greater arteries and was, notably, the 100th baby to ever undergo the arterial switch procedure. When Heidi transitioned from pediatric to adult care, she became a patient of UCLA Health. She is proud to support the doctors and nurses who have been instrumental in her long-term health.

Heidi has a master's degree in business from the University of Southern California and lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two young sons. She is currently a strategic community consultant for a variety of tech companies. In 2014, Heidi founded Project Happy Hearts, a nonprofit that provides EKG screenings for the detection of congenital heart disease. Outside of her professional and philanthropic activities, Heidi enjoys spending time with her family, traveling the world and being outdoors.

Brian Carlson

Brian is currently the executive vice president (EVP) at Mission Valley Bank, where he additionally holds the title of EVP small business administration (SBA) division manager. Brian is also the president of Total SBA. Prior to this, Brian served as EVP SBA division manager at First Bank and president/CEO of SBA Complete, Inc. Brian has a strong background in SBA lending, with experience at various financial institutions, such as Excel National Bank, Fortune Bank, Temecula Valley Bank and Imperial Bank. Brian holds a bachelor's degree in business finance from San Diego State University.

Gary H. Edelstone

Gary is a tax attorney practicing in Century City. He has extensive experience in private wealth planning, both from an income tax and estate tax perspective, often facilitating his clients' charitable giving. Gary has implemented and administered numerous private foundations, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts and other charitable gifts. He also handles income tax planning for corporations and pass-through entities.

Gary has been a patient of the center since 1995, when he first needed surgery on his aortic valve. Over the years, he realized that the ethos of the center — to care for and counsel its patients — goes well beyond what most expect of medicine today. Gary is especially impressed by the combination of expertise and the striking level of compassion at the center. He welcomed the opportunity to support the center and joined the board in 2023.

In addition to his other philanthropic commitments, Gary is on the board of Red Hen Press, a Los Angeles-based independent publisher of literary works.

Delphine Lee

Delphine Lee is a founding member of the board of advisors of the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center. She has served as a member of the UCLA Health System Board since 2015. Her daughter, Kelly Lee Tarantello, was a pediatric cardiac patient at UCLA beginning in 1988; Kelly transitioned to the adolescent program, then moved to the adult congenital program. Kelly was a Fontan procedure patient and received a heart/liver transplant in 2016. Upon Kelly's passing, Delphine endowed the Kelly Lee Tarantello Chair in Liver Transplantation at UCLA in honor of her daughter.

In addition to her commitment to UCLA, Delphine has been a volunteer at Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) on Tuesdays since 2007. She was a member of the CHOC Foundation Board of Directors from 2009 to 2025. She provided vital financial support in the joint alliance of the UCLA/CHOC congenital heart program. Delphine holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's degree in business, with a specialty in finance, from the University of Southern California. She and her husband Ron reside in Corona del Mar, California.

Pamela Miner

Pam worked as a nurse practitioner for the Ahmanson/UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center from 1991 until her retirement in 2020. The most rewarding part of her long career has been the relationships she treasures with ACHD patients and their families, many spanning decades. She takes great pride in the evolution of the field of ACHD, recognizing that UCLA has always played a fundamental role in furthering the science, technology and humanity that define the specialty.

A dedicated advocate of the center, Pam has been there for every board meeting since the board's inception, primarily as part of the clinical team and then as a member after she retired. Pam has channeled her love and knowledge of ACHD into devoted advocacy and philanthropy to help secure the future of the center.

Doug Praw

Doug is a partner at Holland & Knight. He represents institutional investors in large-scale real estate projects. Doug was born with a congenital heart defect and had open heart surgery when he was 9 years old. Doug is involved with the center because he values its faculty and staff's commitment to the highest level of patient care. Doug and his family also volunteer with Camp Harmony, an overnight camp program for children experiencing poverty in Los Angeles County.

Jeff Rosenberg, M.D.

Jeff became involved with the center when his son, Mathew, was diagnosed with an anomalous left coronary artery at 31 years old. He was inspired by the care provided at the center and was pleased to join the board of advisors. His experience in heart disease stems from his 25-year career as an adult cardiac surgeon in San Diego. He also served as the chief medical officer for Dignity Health in Northern California and for the United American Indian Involvement in Los Angeles, retiring in October 2023.

Jeff has held several board positions for other organizations, including the American Heart Association in San Diego and Sacramento and the Western Sierra Medical Clinic in Grass Valley, California.

Jackie Sereboff

Jackie was born with Tetralogy of Fallot and had her first open heart surgery at UCLA at age 5. When she was 20 years old, a family friend told her about the center, and she has received phenomenal care ever since. Jackie is also a member of the Women's Fund of Santa Barbara. In addition, Jackie organizes a group of volunteers to make large amounts of chicken and vegetable soup. If someone is ill or just in need of a boost, her group provides this warm source of comfort.



David Geffen
School of Medicine

