



Please welcome the Chief Residents for 2017-2018

Laura Leonards, M.D.

Laura Leonards was born and raised in Lafayette, Louisiana. She received a McDermott Scholarship from the University of Texas at Dallas, and obtained her Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology. After college, she taught math and science to middle school students at an all-boys Catholic school in rural Louisiana. Laura received her Medical Doctorate from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) in New Orleans, where she was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha. She stayed at LSUHSC for her intern year in Internal Medicine. After residency, she will pursue an Interventional Radiology fellowship. Laura is honored to serve as chief, and eager to support residents as they advance through their graduate medical education.

Vishal Patel, M.D., Ph.D.

Vishal Patel is excited to work with Laura and Jennifer as a Chief Resident for the 2017-18 academic year. Originally from Houston, Texas, Vishal received his bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering with honors from Brown University. In 2005, he came to UCLA where he has since earned a Ph.D., also in biomedical engineering, as well as an M.D. from the David Geffen School of Medicine. After graduation from medical school, Vishal completed a transitional year internship at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu. Following residency, he intends to pursue sub-specialty training in neuroradiology. During his time as chief, Vishal hopes to facilitate resident participation in research endeavors and work with his co-residents and the faculty to ensure smooth daily and on-call operations.

Jennifer Young, M.D.

Jenn is a native Los Angeleno who ventured to the Midwest to attend Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois, where she graduated magna cum laude in Biological Sciences and Global Health. She remained at Northwestern to earn her medical degree and Master of Public Health, graduating cum laude in scientia experimentalis. Deciding cold weather was not for her, she moved back to Southern California to complete her transitional year internship at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. After residency, she will pursue a fellowship in Breast Imaging. Jenn looks forward to working with the residency program leadership to promote resident education and scholarly pursuits, further improve the call experience, and organize a memorable resident retreat. She is excited to serve as a resident advocate and liaison alongside Laura and Vishal this upcoming year.