

**May 2010, Stanford University School of Medicine - Dr. James Chang** (1991-92 Fellow), Stanford University, **Dr. Geoffrey Gurtner** (1987-88 Fellow), Stanford University and **Dr. Ernest S. Chiu** (1993-94 Sarnoff Fellow), Tulane School of Medicine

Through the Sarnoff Visiting Professor program, I had the wonderful opportunity to visit former Sarnoff Fellows Dr. James Chang, (Stanford Professor of Surgery and Chief) and Dr. Geoffrey Gurtner (Stanford Professor of Surgery) in the San Francisco Bay Area in May 2010. Even though our current research is no longer in the cardiovascular realm, we remain very active in vascular biology and stem cell research as it relates to our field of plastic surgery.

During the visit, I was able to attend Geoff's successful and well-attended Technology Innovations Plastic Surgery meeting. The meeting focused on bringing together plastic surgeons, scientists, business leaders, and investors to share ideas and discuss new pathways to stimulate research collaboration between academia and industry. I spent invaluable time at Stanford Medical Center as a Sarnoff Visiting Professor meeting staff and residents to exchange new basic science and clinical research ideas, and presented work on a new reconstructive surgery technique developed by our New Orleans surgical team.

The three of us have benefitted tremendously from our Sarnoff Fellow research experience as it has provided vascular biology research skills to help achieve scientific research and career goal initiatives. In turn, we have continued to support and publicize the Sarnoff Foundation in our own medical institutions, professional society, and mentored many medical students/residents on the art of being a clinician-scientist. Clearly, there remains an extensive network of Sarnoff Fellows in many areas of medicine available to serve as mentors, advisors, and friends of future Fellows. The Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Foundation continues to have a tremendous positive impact on training clinician-scientists in all areas of medicine and surgery.