# The FIRST Female Surgery Resident at the University of Missouri



### Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee, MD, FACS

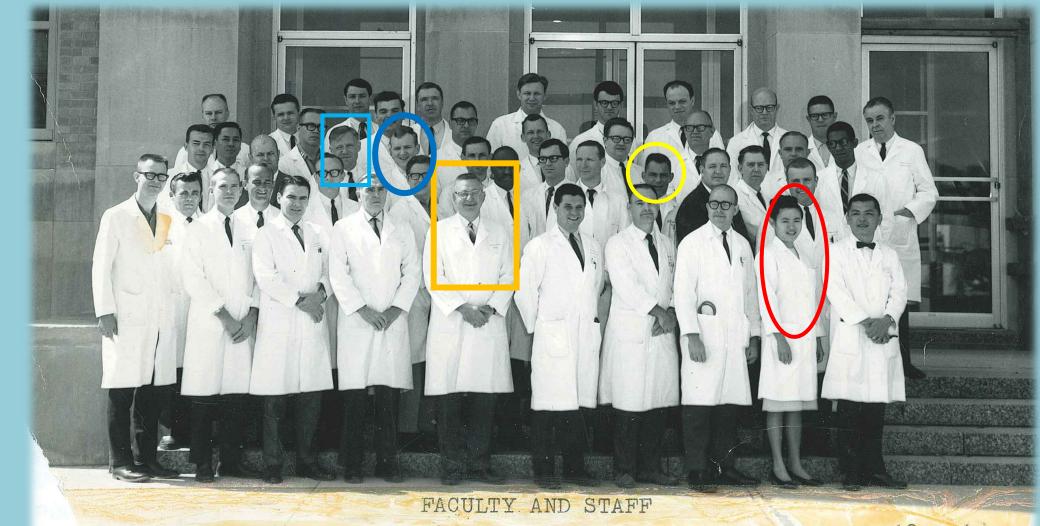
- > Born in Xian, China in 1936
  - > 4 of her siblings died from illness, motivating her to become a physician
- Fled to Taiwan after the Chinese Civil War
- > Immigrated to the U.S. in 1955
- Graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1961
- Started surgical residency at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), completing PGY-1 thru PGY-3 years of training





- ➤In 1964 she came to the University of Missouri-Columbia with Dr. Marion DeWeese to complete the final two years of her surgery residency (1966)
- She then completed two years of surgical oncology fellowship, and then remained on faculty as an assistant professor at University of Missouri 1968 to 1972





NIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, MEDICAL SCHOOL, DEPT. OF SURGERY 1968-1969



- **▶Dr.** Lee was accepted into fellowship in the American College of Surgeons (ACS) in 1971.
- >She spent a year at UCLA as an assistant professor.
- >She was then at USC Medical Center as an attending surgeon 1973-1983.



- She relocated to Honolulu to serve as an attending surgeon at Tripler Army Medical Center until 1999. She was a member of the U.S. Army Corps.
- During this time she was a clinical associate professor and then a clinical professor of surgery at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.
- She was deployed to Iraq during Operation Desert Storm, during which she provided surgical care to both our military personnel as well as Iraqi POW's, and then served on a team of surgeons in northern Saudi Arabia.



- After retiring from the Army Corps as a colonel, she continued her appointment as professor of surgery at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (John A. Burns SOM)where she was the only woman surgeon for most of her career.
- She was one of 21 women surgeons in attendance at a networking breakfast at the 1981 Clinical ACS Congress---this was the genesis of the Association of Women Surgeons led by ACS Past-President Patricia Numann, MD, FACS.
- She has participated in multiple medical missions to underserved countries.



- Served as the leader of a Women Surgeons Delegation to Russia and Romania
- Taught surgery four times a year from 2000-2017 at the Tzu-Chi University in Taiwan.

 All of these professional activities led to her receiving the prestigious <u>Dr. Mary</u> <u>Edwards Walker Inspiring Women in Surgery</u> <u>Award</u> from the ACS in 2018.



#### Dr. Mary Edwards Walker



M Surgery

University of Missouri

(1832-1919)

**Probably the first female** surgeon in the U.S.

Known to be the first female surgeon in the U.S. Army (Civil War)

**Congressional Medal of Honor** 

In 2016 ACS award named after her:

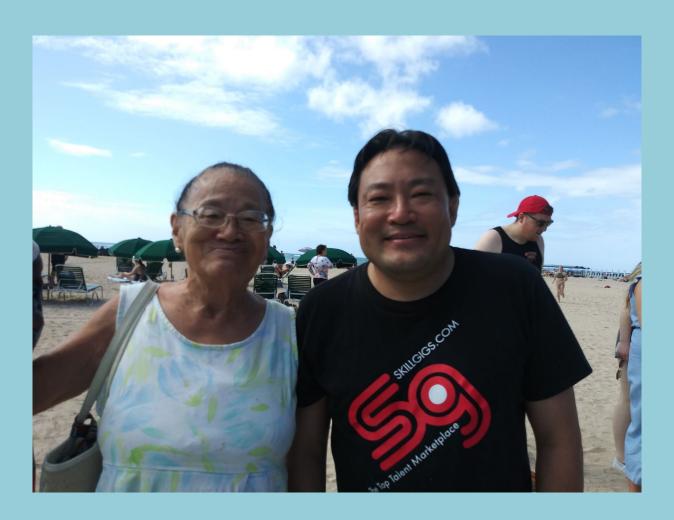
The Dr. Mary Edwards Walker **Inspiring Women in Surgery** 

## October 2018 American College of Surgeons Annual Clinical Congress, Boston MA









### Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee, MD, FACS



#### After Dr. Lee....

1978	Linda Bickerstaff, MD Marsha (Delaney) Ryan, MD	2003	Colleen (Johnson) Moore, MD Monica Rizzo, MD
1979	Angela Clifford, MD	2004	Sidney Hu, MD
1984	Debra Koivunen, MD	2011	Silvie Harrington, MD
1985	Michelle Cates, MD	2014	Nicole (Tuve) Nelson, DO
1986	Ann Peick, MD	2015	Meghan (Reicks) Hansen, MD
1997	Patricia (Barker) Hirner, MD Linda Pai, MD	2017	Ashley Bartels, MD Erica Ibendahl, MD
2000	Mary Keller, MD	2019	Emily Benzer, MD
2001	Cori (McBride) Aguilar, MD	2020	Sydnei Tolefree, MD
2002	Kimberly Lieber, MD	2021	Amanda Allen, MD Laurel Vaughan, MD



### Other Women Firsts in Surgical GME

Year	Surgical Specialty	Resident/Fellow
1976	Ophthalmology	Jean Holt, MD
1980	Vascular Surgery	Angela Clifford, MD
1981	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Becky Lamb, MD Lauren Rice, MD
1982	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Ravinder Japal, MD
1982	Urology	Dana Weaver, MD
1983	Otolaryngology	Belinda Dickenson, MD
1987	Neurosurgery	Catherine Gallo, MD
1988	Plastic Surgery	Carol Reichel, MD
1989	Orthopedic Surgery	Rosalind Epstein, MD



