

Spotlight: David Penner, '17, MD,



Dr. Penner is our graduating chief resident.

Tell us about yourself:

While my roots are in California, I grew up along the coast of southern Maine. My undergraduate years were split equally between obtaining a music degree with a cello emphasis, and premedical studies. I received my Medical School degree at Loma Linda University Medical Center, and General Surgery Residency at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. I am honored to be a graduate of the UC Davis Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency program, and owe my success to the faculty, staff, and fellow residents and to my supportive wife. This summer, I will

be joining a multispecialty surgery group in Reno, Nevada, where I will be practicing both General and Thoracic Surgery.

Tell us about your upcoming new position, and what excites you the most about it?

I am joining a 17-surgeon multispecialty group in Reno, Nevada, where I will be practicing General and Thoracic surgery. I am excited to be moving to Reno at a time of economic and population growth, and look forward to helping to meet the community needs in the area of Thoracic surgery.

How did UC Davis prepare you for life as a thoracic surgeon ?

I believe UC Davis provided the correct balance of discipline, collegiality, and excellence necessary for the successful development of surgical training. While I admire the Cardiothoracic faculty for individual excellence, what I appreciate most is the collective dedication each surgeon has for their patients as individuals. I hope to have absorbed a part of each surgeon's expertise, but what I truly want to emulate is the practice of caring that extends beyond the operating room. This is how I believe UC Davis has helped prepare me for life as a thoracic surgeon.

What will you miss the most from your experiences at UC Davis ?

What I will miss most are the relationships that I've made during the last two years. One of the things that makes this job enjoyable is sharing experiences with fellow residents and faculty, and this dynamic will change after training ends. However, I appreciate the acquaintances that I've made while at UC Davis and will look forward to maintaining contact with each faculty and staff member in this department during the upcoming years.
