

2008 Ackerman Conference Participants

Keynote Speaker

Pauline W. Chen, M.D.

Pauline W. Chen graduated from Harvard University and Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine and completed her surgical training at Yale University, the National Cancer Institute (National Institutes of Health), and UCLA, where she was most recently a faculty member. At Yale, she was the recipient of the Betsy Winters House Staff Teaching award and the George Longstreth Humanness Award for "most exemplifying empathy, kindness, and care in an age of advancing technology." In 1999, she was named the UCLA Outstanding Physician of the Year.

Dr. Chen's first nationally published piece, "Dead Enough? The Paradox of Brain Death," appeared in the Fall 2005 issue of *The Virginia Quarterly Review* and was a finalist for a 2006 National Magazine Award. Her writing has subsequently appeared in *The New York Times*, *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *The New York Times Book Review*, and *Self Magazine*. She was the 2005 co-winner of the Staige D. Blackford Prize for Nonfiction and a finalist for the 2002 Kirkwood Prize for Fiction. Dr. Chen's critically acclaimed first book, *Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality* (Knopf 2007) was a *New York Times* bestseller and is being translated and sold in almost a dozen countries around the world.