

Orthopaedic Surgery News

Celebrating 42 Years of Service

SUMMER, 2011

“Message from the Chair”

June is an exciting month on a number of fronts. Not only does it mark the beginning of summer, the hellos to our new resident interns and the celebration of our graduating chief residents and fellows, but it also marks the close of the fiscal year and completion of the budget season. Much of our department’s sustainability depends on the clinical services we provide and our ability to efficiently and effectively provide care to the populations we serve.

Integrating evidence-based research and teaching into day-to-day clinical care is essential to fulfilling our missions at UC Davis. In this excerpt, I would like to feature some of the highlights of our clinical services, by subspecialty, that have taken place this year, and that are slated for the future.

The foot service has started the process for adding a foot fellowship, tentatively planned for 2012-2013. We have an open recruitment for a second foot surgeon.

The adult reconstruction service has been in transition this year. With the departure of Dr. Meehan and the change in appointment of Dr. Jamali, we have hired two new adult reconstructive surgeons, Dr.

Gavin Pereira who started with the department in January, 2011, and Dr. Mauro Giordani who is slated to start the end of August.

The sports service had their first fellow this past fiscal year. This ACGME fellowship will continue in the coming fiscal year. The end of June marks the departure of Dr. Lewis as he returns to Idaho. A replacement is not underway at this time as the sports service welcomed two new faculty previously, Dr. James Van den Bogaerde in 2008 and Dr. Cassandra Lee in 2009.

The trauma service will welcome current chief resident, Dr. Jon Eastman, in September, 2012, upon completion of his fellowship training in Washington.

The oncology service went through a transition this past year with the departure of Dr. Tamurian and the return of Dr. Donthineni.

The hand service is looking to expand its coverage of hand call in the coming fiscal year and is currently discussing a coverage arrangement with a physician in the community.

The pediatric service continues to be closely aligned with Shriners’s



Dr. Paul Di Cesare
Professor and Chair

Hospital. Discussions continue between the two entities to determine the best model of serving pediatric patients in our community.

The spine service has increased its fellowship program to include two clinical fellows this past year and in future years.

While some of our transitions have presented challenges this past year, we continually strive to improve the quality of care for our patients. I look forward to the arrival of our new residents and fellows and the year ahead, as we continue to develop and expand high quality patient care, foster a superior educational program, enhance our research, and enhance the department’s reputation.

Regards,

Dr. Mauro Giordani joins the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery



Mauro Giordani, MD, has joined the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery as an Assistant Professor,

specializing in knee and hip reconstruction, shoulder replacements, adult reconstruction, and mal-unions.

Dr. Giordani completed his medical degree at the University of Southern California and later, obtained a second degree in medicine from the University of Rome, Tor Vergata, Italy. He completed his residency at the University of Southern California Medical Center, Department of Orthopedics and went on to become the Otto Aufranc Fellow, Instructor of Orthopaedics at Tufts University. He also completed an additional Adult Reconstruction fellowship at Lecco General Hospital, Lecco, Italy. Dr. Giordani is certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

To schedule an appointment, please call the ACC clinic at 916.734.2700.

Portrait of a Grateful Employee Cheryl O'Hara, RN

Frequently our stories in Orthopaedic Surgery focus on grateful patients. This quarter, we speak with a retired employee of UC Davis Health System.

If you have seen an orthopaedic surgeon in the region, chances are Cheryl (Sherry) O'Hara has been part of their training.

O'Hara worked as an operating room nurse for 16 years with UC Davis Health System before her retirement in 2000. While she specialized in the spine area with the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, she also overlapped and worked in trauma surgery and heart surgery.

At the time of her retirement, O'Hara was a Clinical Nurse III with multiple responsibilities that included assisting in surgeries, watching over OR suites and managing care plans for orthopaedic surgery patients.

"I really admired and loved working with the residents," O'Hara says about working with orthopaedic surgeons in the OR. "They are so passionate about what they do – so dedicated."

She also enjoyed the high degree of precision and logic involved. During her years in the OR, O'Hara did a "fair amount of training" of nurses –



and admitted that she also helped residents learn a thing or two as well. "We all worked as a team," she says. "If I had knowledge I learned from one of the faculty – and we were all constantly learning – I would pass it along to the residents as well as the nurses."

O'Hara admits that the hardest part of her job was watching residents graduate and move on. "I hated saying good-bye," she says. "It got to be very difficult every year when the residents and their families left. I enjoyed the relationships we built over the years during their residencies."

O'Hara started her career working with developmentally delayed patients as a psychiatric technician at Porterville State Hospital, before moving on to work at the Alzheimer's

ANNOUNCING DR. ERIC GIZA AS OUR NEW ORTHOPAEDIC ACC CLINIC MEDICAL DIRECTOR



This person serves as the clinical supervisor and leader, assisting in the development and coordination of a system for the Clinic, which assures a multi-disciplinary, comprehensive, patient-oriented approach to patient care. The Clinic Director is accountable for the overall quality, appropriateness, efficiency, and effectiveness of medical care delivered within the Clinic.

unit at Napa State Hospital. She then became an animal health technician and worked for a local veterinarian, assisting in the clinic and operating room, for 11 years. She decided it was time to go back to school and earned her RN degree at American River College in 1983, which launched her career at UC Davis.

As a retiree, she now enjoys her time crocheting, knitting and sewing – which all help to keep her fingers nimble. Gardening at a son’s home is also a favorite passion – he gives her license to be as creative as she would like.

“What a dream ‘job,’” she says. “I wish everyone was as easy to please as he is.”

With her husband, Jim, O’Hara also invests in the past with collectables that are heartfelt, including gas station memorabilia (“My husband managed a Chevron Station for 25 years,” O’Hara says); mining hats with carbide lanterns (“Jim’s grandfather and father worked underground in Park City, Utah”) and family photos of “ancestors long gone but still in our hearts.”

When asked why she donated to the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery O’Hara said, “We received a mailing suggesting donations to the Department, specifically to the Residents Program. I value these young dedicated people very highly. I’m grateful to have been given the opportunity to direct our contribution toward their support. Make sure we remain on your mailing list!”

Make a donation today and help improve the quality of lives of people affected by orthopaedic injuries and diseases.

Contact Kathryn Keyes at:
916-734-9673 or
kathryn.keyes@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu

Awards & Recognitions

Congratulations Dr. Michelle James, honoree of the 2011 Golden Apple Award! Given by Health Volunteers Overseas, this award recognizes extraordinary contributions of HVO volunteers in support of educational activities at HVO’s training sites. Dr. James initiated a program in pediatric hand surgery in Managua, Nicaragua in 2009 and has served as site director since then, returning biannually to work with the surgeons and patients.



Dr. Hari Reddi was the invited plenary speaker at the 11th International Conference of Frontiers in Polymers and Advanced Materials, which takes place in Pretoria, South Africa from May 22 to 27th. His lecture was on the Clinical Applications of BMPs in Bone and Cartilage Regeneration.

Congratulations Dr. Joel Williams, who received first place in the ORS/OREF Resident Conference--Basic Science division for his work titled “BMP-7 Induces Reproducible Healing in Rodent CSD Model Using a Novel Fixator.” Joel has also been selected for funding for an OTA Resident Research Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for, “The Role of Mechanical Environment in a Rodent Critical Size Defect Using a Novel Fixator”.



*Check out the July issue of Sacramento Magazine for a featured article on Dr. Williams (page 92-93)



Congratulations Dr. Amanatullah! As one of the top two WOA 2011 Resident/Fellow Award winners, Derek Amanatullah will make a podium presentation at the 2012 AAOS Annual Meeting, February 7-11, 2012 in San Francisco.

Save the Date

Orthopaedic Surgery
Research Symposium

Friday, October 21st
7:30 am

Guest speaker: Professor Linda J.
Sandell, Ph.D.

Director, Orthopaedic Research
Laboratory, Washington University
School of Medicine

“Transcriptional Regulation of
Chondrogenesis”



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Congratulations 2011 Graduates!



June 17th Graduation Symposium

Graduating Residents: Gaurav Abbi, MD, Jonathan Eastman, MD,
Eddie Lo, MD, Tyler Nathe, MD

Graduating Fellows: Jeffrey Arthur, DO (Adult Reconstruction), Joshua
Ellwitz, MD (Spine), Thomas Jones, MD (Trauma), HoHyung Lee, MD (Sports),
Lisa Maskill, MD (Pediatrics), William Min, MD (Trauma), Vivek Mohan, MD
(Spine), Chukuneny Osuji, MD (Trauma), Meryl Singer, MD (Hand)

Questions or comments? Contact us at:
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