I would like to welcome you to the inaugural edition of the UC Davis Orthopaedic Quarterly Newsletter. Our hope is that through this medium, you will have the opportunity to stay abreast of the thriving programs within our specialty, specifically as it pertains to our four UC Davis missions: expansion of our teaching endeavors, clinical improvement projects, involvement in our community, and efforts in research.

In the past two years that I have been chair, we have experienced exciting expansion in both breadth and depth. This summer we have expanded our subspecialty services to include tumor/oncology and foot and ankle. We are in the process of recruiting an epidemiologist who will be charged with building a clinical registry for our patients, so we as faculty can improve the care we provide. We are partnering with Mercy San Juan to bring elective practices of tumor, foot and joints to their facility. Our purpose for this endeavor is to decrease our number of pending cases as we have outgrown our current operating space at UCDHS, even with the opening of the Same Day Surgery Center this past November.

We said good bye to five chief residents and four fellows this past June and celebrated their research success at our annual symposium. The festivities continued with our annual resident and fellow dinner at the Granite Bay Golf Club with Jody Buckwalter, Chair of Orthopaedics at the University of Iowa as our guest of honor. The department welcomed four new residents in July and four fellows this past August. Our fellowship programs continue to excel and are on the trajectory to expand this coming year.

During these times of growth, we rely on our alumni, our friends in the community, our patients and each other to support the missions in which we serve. We are in the process of establishing a grateful patient campaign and are working with our Health Sciences Advancement Department to develop a strategic fundraising plan. This plan will outline initiatives that can contribute to our financial viability as we strive to put the UCD Department of Orthopaedics on the map -- not as 40th in the nation, as noted in the 2008 US News and World Report study, but as a nationally and globally renowned center recommended for unparalleled clinical care, recognized for the advancement of research, attractive to trainees as an innovative place to learn, and known for it’s commitment to involvement in our community.

Many thanks to our specialty fellowship directors, our residency director, and the volunteer clinical faculty who enrich our teaching program. We recently appointed Robert Tamurian as Assistant Residency Director. We welcomed Brad Yoo, MD, as Co-Instructor of Record with David Fyrhie, PhD. They are working on enhancing the educational experience for our OSU 264 course. Mark Lee, MD, continues to oversee our Basic Science Lecture series and Philip Wolinsky, MD, has been appointed to oversee the faculty mentorship program. Teaching is one of our four key missions and we strive to integrate active learning as we fulfill the clinical, research and community service missions of the University.

Of 170 hospitals in 16 adult specialties, the Department of Orthopaedics at the University of California, Davis is ranked 40 by the the 2008 U.S. News and World Report.
Meet our Team...

**Adult Reconstructive Service**
John P. Meehan, MD  
*Chief and Fellowship Director*
Paul Di Cesare, MD  
*M. W. Chapman Chair*
Amir A. Jamali, MD  
*Clinical Medical Director*

**Foot and Ankle Service**
Eric Giza, MD  
*Chief*

**Hand/Upper Extremity Service**
Robert M. Szabo, MD  
*Chief and Fellowship Director*
Robert H. Allen, MD  
*Oncology*
Robert Tamurian, MD  
*Chief and Assistant Residency Director*

**Pediatrics**
Michelle A. James, MD  
*Chief*
Jennette Boakes, MD  
*Fellowship Director*
Joel Lerman, MD  
Debra J. Popejoy, MD  
George T. Rab, MD  
Peter B. Salamon, MD

**Spine Service**
Munish Gupta, MD  
*Chief and Center Medical Director*
Daniel R. Benson, MD  
Eric O. Klineberg, MD  
*R. Fellowship Director*
Rolando F. Roberto, MD  
*Residency Director*

**Sports Service**
Richard Marder, MD  
*Chief*
Kirk J. Lewis, MD  
James Van den Bogaerde, MD

**Trauma Service**
Philip R. Wolinsky, MD  
*Chief*
Tania Ferguson, MD  
Mark A. Lee, MD  
*Fellowship Director*
Brad Yoo, MD

**Research**
David Fyhrie, PhD  
*Director*
A. Hari Reddi, PhD  
Dominik Haudenschild, PhD

---

**Welcome New Residents**

**Adieu to**

**Hand/Upper Extremity Fellows**
Raj Kullar, MD  
*University of California, Davis School of Medicine*

Lance Mitsunaga, MD  
*University of California, San Diego School of Medicine*

Daemeon Nicolaou, MD  
*University of Michigan School of Medicine, Ann Arbor, MI*

Joel Williams, MD  
*Mt. Sinai School of Medicine New York, NY*

**Spine Fellows**

Gene Choi, MD  
*New York Medical College Queens, NY*

**Trauma Fellows**

George Karl Van Osten III, MD  
*St. Mary’s Medical Center San Francisco, CA*

Michael Quackenbush, DO  
*University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Stratford, NJ*

---

Medical Mission to Liberia

Dr. Peter Salamon, UCDMC Pediatric Orthopedist and his colleague, Dr. Gary Murata, spent two weeks this past March on board the hospital ship, Africa Mercy, docked in the port of Monrovia, Liberia.

As volunteers with Mercy Ships, a nonprofit group that has been operating hospital ships in developing nations since 1978, the doctors performed surgery on children who have no access to electricity, running water or sewage systems, much less health care. Salamon said there are only two orthopaedic doctors in this nation of 3.1 million people.

They treated many congenital abnormalities, straightened deformed legs and repaired club feet, a defect that occurs about once per thousand births. The deformities were much more severe than seen in the United States because these children had received no prior medical care.
Spotlight on........
Orthopaedic Spine Service

Spine surgery here at UC Davis has come a long way in the past 35 years. Beginning in 1975 with a single spine surgeon, it has grown into a full service center that includes four surgeons, a fellow, residents, and students. Services are available for both children and adults. Areas of expertise include minimally invasive micro-discectomy surgery, degenerative reconstruction and fusion for scoliosis and spondylolisthesis. Treatment for fractures, tumors and infection is also offered.

In 2006, the spine service moved into a multidisciplinary center where patients are treated by pain management specialists, orthopaedists, physical medicine physicians and neurosurgeons. Spine related injury or disease can be diagnosed and treated with the latest diagnostic tools. ORs have state-of-the-art equipment, including the Zeiss Pentero microscope with an integrated BrainLab spinal neuronavigational system.

Microscopic surgery is now used for minimally invasive cases, and artificial disk surgery is being investigated.

Our team includes: our administrator, Penny Herbert, who was instrumental in the development of the Spine Center; Peter Than, RN, the OR team leader who keeps the equipment working properly; Megan Lunsford, our practice manager, who directs the day to day operations; and Cinnie Barrett, our clinic case manager since 1998. Our nurses are Mandy Walker, Janet Lukenbill, Ty Dawson, Danny Evans, Nicole Polk, and Patty Holt. Margaret MacNitt is our academic coordinator; she keeps all four spine surgeons organized.

Munish Gupta, MD, Spine Service chief and co-director of the Spine Center, trained at Northwestern Medical School in Chicago and at the Leatherman Spine Program in Louisville, KY. He specializes in scoliosis and reconstructive spine surgery, and has been with UC Davis since 1997.

Rolando Roberto, MD, the residency program director has been with UCD for four years. He trained at the UC Irvine Medical School, University of Illinois for residency and at the Twin Cities Spine Fellowship Program in Minneapolis. His expertise is in spinal deformity, cervical spine disorders and spondylolisthesis.

Eric Klineberg, MD, is the newest addition to our service. He trained at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, the University of Washington for residency, and completed his spine fellowship with the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Klineberg specializes in minimally invasive surgery, spinal trauma and cervical surgery and he serves as our fellowship director.

Daniel Benson, MD, senior member of the department, has been with the university since his residency began in 1969. He developed the spine fellowship program and was its first director. He provides consulting services and assists in surgery. His interests are scoliosis, spinal trauma, and coccydynia.

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
University of California, Davis
4860 Y Street, Suite 3800
Sacramento, CA 95817

PLEASE NOTE: Future issues will be distributed via email ONLY - if you would like to continue to receive our newsletter, please contact us at orthowebmaster@ucdavis.edu. Please contact us if you have any comments or suggestions.