This time of year we celebrate the success of our trainees, both graduating residents and fellows as they close the UC Davis chapter of their education and prepare to embark on the next step of their professional development. Our graduating residents are Cale Bonds, Doug Dennis, William Page, and Ravi Patel. Fellow graduates are Gene Choi, Mohammed Khadder, George Myo, Michael Quackenbush and George Karl Van Osten.

For the second year, Thursday evening grand rounds were held the day prior to the graduate research program. It’s often difficult for our alumni, voluntary clinical faculty, and colleagues to take time away from their busy schedules to attend our normally scheduled Tuesday AM grand rounds; so we have gone to this time to give everyone a chance to join us. This upcoming year, we also plan to have quarterly evening grand rounds preceded by a welcoming reception, sponsored by the Lipscomb Society.

We welcomed guest speaker, Dr. Peter Stern, Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine. His evening grand rounds topic was “Complications Following Hinged Total Elbow Arthroplasty.”

Our graduate symposium, held on Friday, June 19, began with Dr. Stern’s presentation, “Current Perspectives on the Management of Small Joint Injuries and Arthritis”. Following his lecture, we listened to five resident and five fellow research presentations - all followed by lively discussion from the audience. All of our graduates are expected to present at the symposium and are also required to provide a grand rounds in their senior year. These opportunities to present their research work prepare our trainees for exposure in public speaking, which is valuable to their careers.

The evening concluded with our annual graduation dinner, held at the Granite Bay Country Club. Faculty, trainees, volunteer clinical faculty, and special guests of the honorees were invited to attend. After dinner, there was a program that announced award recipients, followed by a presentation of the graduate certificates. This year, we had two special acknowledgements: Dr. George Rab presented a plaque to Dr. David Moehring, in recognition of his twenty years of service with our department. Dr. Moehring is retiring from the Primary Care Network in June 2009, but we are fortunate to have him continue on as a Volunteer Clinical Faculty member. Dr. Robert Szabo then presented a toast in honor of our Volunteer Clinical Faculty, whose myriad contributions enhance the training mission of our department.

The resident-nominated Teaching Award recipients were Dr. Mark Lee, Associate Professor and traumatologist and Dr. James Sehr, Volunteer Clinical Faculty from Kaiser South. The Research Symposium Award recipients, chosen by a panel of both research and clinical faculty, were awarded to resident Dr. Doug Dennis for his presentation, “Proximal Third Tibia Fractures: A Biomechanical (continued on page 2)
According to the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP), more than 24,000 medical students were placed in residency training programs during this year’s “Match Day”. Among U.S. seniors, more than 56% matched with their first choice. In orthopaedics, 157 programs opened 641 positions to a total of 957 applicants. The number of available orthopaedic positions has continued to increase over the past 5 years, from 610 in 2005 to the current 641.

Our Match Day Results

Welcome new Residents

Sukanta Maitra, MD
(6 year research position)
gr gradient from Albany Medical College in 2005; Dr. Maitra is interested in remaining in academic medicine.
Acting Intern Rotation - 10.27.08 - 11.21.08 - Spine Service

Scott Porter, MD
from Santa Barbara; earned his MD degree from UC Davis. Dr. Porter is interested in upper extremity and sports related orthopaedics and medical device design. Acting Intern Rotation - 8.11.08 - 9.05.08 - Trauma Service

Volunteer Opportunities in Orthopaedic Surgery

As a follow up to my grand rounds presentation regarding Mercy Ships and Volunteering in Orthopaedic Surgery, the following web sites might be useful if you are considering this. Please contact me if you have any questions.
-Peter Salamon, MD
psalamon@aol.com
916.258.0504

Mercy Ships
www.mercyships.org
Doctors Without Borders
www.doctorswithoutborders.org
Orthopaedics Overseas
www.hvousa.org
CURE
www.helpcurenow.org

Thomas Powers, MD
grew up in Oakland and earned his MD degree from the University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine in Honolulu. Acting Intern Rotation - 9.02.08 - 9.26.08 - Trauma Service

Scott Whitlow, MD
grew up in Seattle, and earned his MD degree from Boston University. His interests lean toward orthopaedic trauma. Acting Intern Rotation - 10.28.08 - 11.21.08 - Sports Service

Philbert Huang, MD
earned his MD degree and PhD in Biomedical Engineering from UC Davis. He also did a General Surgery Internship at UC Davis from June 2007 to June 2008. 7.21.08- 4.30.09 - MD Consult

Save these 2009 dates!

Lipscomb Lectureship - Sept 3
Speakers: Dr. Dan Benson (History of UCD Orthopaedics) and Dr. William Sterett of Steadman Hawkins Clinic (Allograft vs. Autograft ACL Reconstruction)
refreshments at 5:30 pm
lecture from 6 to 7:30 pm
Medical Education Building

Research Symposium
October 16
Speaker: Prof. Dr. Mats Paulsson, Director, Center for Biochemistry, University of Cologne
8 am to 5 pm
Medical Education Building
Regenerative medicine and surgery are emerging areas of medicine that are based on design and development of spare parts for the human body; our focus being regeneration for the musculoskeletal system, to restore function to tissue diseased or damaged from cancer, trauma and arthritis. Regenerative medicine is based on principles of molecular developmental biology and is governed by basic biomechanics and bioengineering. The three key elements of regenerative medicine are morphogenetic signals, stem cells and scaffolds of extracellular matrix. Regeneration recapitulates embryonic development and morphogenesis.

Regeneration of articular cartilage is one of the top priorities in the research conducted at the Lawrence J. Ellison Musculoskeletal Research Center. The articular cartilage has distinct functional domains in the surface, middle and deep layers of the cartilage. The surface serves to secrete a lubricant called superficial zone protein for friction-free locomotion of the limbs. The middle layer provides the extracellular matrix with collagen for tensile strength and proteoglycans to resist compression during mechanical loading resulting from everyday activities like walking and running.

Recent research in the laboratory is focused on regeneration of surface, middle and deep layers of articular cartilage using stem/progenitor cells and morphogens, such as bone and cartilage morphogenetic proteins. There are stem cells from both embryonic and adult tissues.

Dr. Reddi worked on coaxing these muscle-derived stem/progenitor cells to form cartilage by lineage-directing growth factors and morphogens such as BMPs. He has now optimized methods for cartilage formation. But there are still many challenges: such as how to create articular cartilage with surface, middle and deep layers and how to maintain them in a stable manner in order to obtain durable function. Dr. Reddi is optimistic that, with systematic investigations of the stem cells, signals and scaffolds, we will eventually be able to provide regenerative medicine to our patients, which is our department’s primary mission.

Dr. Reddi is flanked by Professor Becerra (l) and Professor Andrades (r) at the University of Malaga Hospital Carlos Haya
to normal function and pathology of
the upper extremity musculoskeletal,
nervous and vascular systems.
With a formal didactic curriculum of
weekly lectures and gross anatomy
dissections, a microsurgery laboratory
and busy patient experience, residents
and fellows become competent to treat
congenital and acquired disorders
from the brachial plexus to the
fingertips. Clinical service is available
for both children and adults with a
broad spectrum of upper extremity
disorders including hand, wrist, elbow
and shoulder. Free tissue bone and
soft tissue transfers are performed
for hand, tumor, pediatric and trauma
surgery patients. Surgeries are
performed at UC Davis Medical
Center, Mercy General Hospital and
the Northern California Shriners
Hospital. All-inclusive hand therapy
services are provided by our own
University certified hand therapists
(Kim Groninger, Marilyn Armbruster
and Jean Kotal), as well as many other
qualified therapists in the community.

Robert M. Szabo, MD, MPH, Hand
Service Chief and Fellowship Direc-
tor, has a dual appointment in Or-
thopaedics and Plastic Surgery. He
trained at Mount Sinai Medical Center
in New York and at the University
of California is San Diego. He also
received an MPH in Epidemiology
at the University of California,
Berkeley. Professor Szabo specializes in
hand, wrist, peripheral nerve, brachial
plexus and reconstructive shoulder
and elbow surgery. He will assume
the role as President of the American
Society for Surgery of the Hand in
September 2009.

Robert H. Allen, MD, formerly a
renowned cardiac surgeon at Mercy
General Hospital, trained at Stanford
University and completed his hand
fellowship with Dr. Szabo at UC
Davis. Dr. Allen specializes in hand
and wrist surgery, with an emphasis
on acute trauma and post traumatic
reconstruction.

Over the past 26 years, the UCD hand
service has hosted a monthly Problem
Hand Clinic, where community
surgeons and therapists meet and
present patients with complex problems
in the quest to propose the best possible
solutions for their patients’ care. The
hand team also meets regularly, along
with community hand surgeons for a
serious hand journal club organized
by Drs. Slater and Goldberg.

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