

# Connections 2019

A Newsletter from the Children's Orthopedic and Scoliosis Program • Issue 15 – 2019

## Message from the Director of Education

We've had another fantastic academic year here at Rady Children's Hospital.

Our fellowship class this year has done excellent work and have great jobs. Ernie Young is going to join the Cleveland Clinic. He did his medical school training at their cross-town rivals at Case Western and his residency at the Mayo Clinic. Jonathon Koenig is going to join Tom Grogan, MD in Los Angeles in a private practice situation. JK did his residency at Lennox Hill Hospital in New York City. Ron Roiz is joining the staff with one of our former fellows, Corey Fuller, up the road at Loma Linda. Ron finished his residency at Cedar Sinai in Los Angeles. Peter Hahn is joining the group at Miller's Children's Hospital in Long Beach, CA. He did his residency at UC Irvine and did his pediatric orthopedic rotations at that hospital. We wish them the best and welcome them to our San Diego Pediatric Orthopedic Fellow Alumni.

We look forward to our new fellowship class which will start on August 1st. Jessica Burns

joins us from the Phoenix Orthopedic Program and trained with Greg White. Clara-belle DeVries did her residency at Washington University in St. Louis. Hakan Pehlivan is coming from the University of Virginia where he trained with former fellows, Mark Abel and Keith Bachmann. Megan Severson will be joining us from University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Our relationship with UCSD, Balboa Naval Hospital, and the San Antonio Military Medical Center has continued to be strong and is even growing a bit. UCSD still sends us PGY-5 and PGY-3 residents, but for the past few years they have sent a senior resident for some pediatric sports medicine experience. Balboa sends us a PGY-2 resident, but this year we have had the PGY-1 interns rotate through all year to learn basic casting techniques and basic pediatric orthopedics. It's been a great experience for both programs. SAMMC had been sending PGY-3 Air Force Residents, but since the combination of Brooke Army Medical and Wilford Hall Air Force programs, we have had

Army residents working with us as well. As usual, all of the programs boast high OITE scores and many of the residents are interested in research.

Dan Sucato, MD, from Scottish Rite was our visiting professor this year. Besides being one of the nicest people in pediatric orthopedic surgery, he presented new approaches to the hip and spine as well as critiquing our resident and fellow research projects. A great day ended in a soiree with a taco truck hosted by Cathy and Peter Newton at their beautiful home in La Jolla.

We enjoyed a great reunion in Charlotte at the annual POSNA meeting. We're proud of former fellow, Steve Frick, who was the President of this meeting. Quite an honor for such a nice, humble, hard-working surgeon. Our staff and alumni performed well at the POSNA Closing Reception at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Doug Wallace finished first in the NASCAR video challenge (and San Diego alums had 6 out of the top 10 times). Matt Hollenbeck and Eric



Scott Mubarak



Dennis Wenger



Henry "Hank" Chambers



Peter Newton



C. "Doug" Wallace



Maya Pring



Burt Yaszay



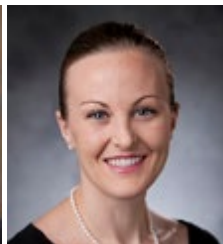
Eric Edmonds



Andrew "Andy" Pennock



Vidyadhar "Salil" Upasani



Katherine "Katie" Rickert

# Message from the Director of Education – cont'd

Edmonds had the best 2-man team time for the NASCAR Pit-crew Challenge (and there is photographic evidence that Eric might not have left the experience for a couple hours).

We are happy to be hosting the 2020 POSNA Annual meeting here in San Diego. We are still working with the home office and Dr. Steve Albanese, the incoming President, on hotels and venues. It will be hard to beat this last year, but we obviously have some competitive folks that will give it a try.

We will be adapting our Visiting Professorship for next year, so that the event will be coordinated with the POSNA Annual meeting and be therefore held on the Monday before (May 11th). Dr. Deborah Eastwood, from London, will be our visiting professor. We are scheduling VP and POSNA together to give you all an opportunity to attend both events. By making POSNA a boondoggle, we hope you'll come for the week as we are planning to have our annual alumni event on the Sunday afternoon before POSNA and VP Day either at the beach or on the bay. I know it's Mother's Day, but what better way to honor the Mothers by planning a trip to San Diego! We do hope that you bring your families and plan on spending the afternoon with us.

We have a new Education Administrative Coordinator: Emilia Duggan. Emilia joins us from helping run a cardiology fellowship in Boston. Her husband is stationed here in the Navy and she is about to welcome their first child. We are very fortunate to have her organizational skills and new ideas about the fellowship.

Our practice continues to grow with the addition of Emily Cidambi. Emily did her residency here at UCSD and completed her fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital. She will follow in the "footsteps" of Scott Mubarak and focus on foot and ankle. I believe her time as a ballerina contributed to her commitment to this area.

On the adjacent page, you will read about our proposed new Cerebral Palsy Center. In order for me to focus on developing this CP Center, I will be stepping down from my role as the Education Director (even though I just recently took the reins). The program will be in fantastic hands though, as I am handing off the Fellowship Directorship to Salil Upasani, who already has some great new ideas about the fellowship. Maya Pring will continue her unparalleled service to our education program as the Residency Director.

Thank you for your interest in the Rady Children's Hospital Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery Program. I look forward to our future encounters, especially since POSNA will be here in 2020. Thank you all for your support of our program.

Hank G. Chambers, MD  
Director – Orthopedic Training Program  
June 10, 2019

Dear friends and Rady orthopedic family,

2019 has been a busy academic year for education and research in San Diego!

On behalf of the Rady Orthopedic Surgery division, I would like to thank Dr. Hank Chambers, MD for his leadership of our education program and congratulate him on his upcoming role in leading the development of our new advanced Cerebral Palsy Center. We are excited to have Dr. David Sutherland's legacy and devotion to motion analysis, gait, and care for children with cerebral palsy live on in this reinvigorated and advanced way at Rady Children's Hospital. I can think of no one better than Dr. Chambers to bring this center to the forefront of our specialty. Congratulations and thanks again Hank for your leadership in education and for taking the reins of the CP Center.

Much of what follows in the coming pages of this year's edition of Connections relates to our team's accomplishments in achieving our research mission. This is in large part due to the leadership of Dr. Eric Edmonds, our director of research. I would like to thank him

for advancing our efforts in discovery and creation of evidence that allows our field to advance. Thank you Eric, and kudos to our entire research division for another highly productive year.

A special recognition is required for the editorial team that creates our Connections publication. I would like to thank JD Bomar, Eric Edmonds, and Hank Chambers for bringing us this year in review and connecting all of us to all of you. We greatly value the orthopedic family we share together.

Finally, we are looking forward to seeing all of you in San Diego for the 2020 POSNA meeting next May. Come for the entire week (May 10-16, 2020) – reunion, visiting professorship, POSNA, and connections of a lifetime!

Most sincerely,

Peter Newton, MD  
Chief of Orthopedics

# New Satellite Clinic – Murrieta



The division of orthopedics is expanding our presence in North County San Diego with a new outpatient clinic located in the Rady Children's Medical Plaza in Murrieta. This new location has on site radiology, as well as a PT and 360 Sports Medicine gym and will be staffed primarily by Dr. Yu-Tsun Cheng.



## New Cerebral Palsy Center



### Southern Family Cerebral Palsy Center

*Hank Chambers, MD*

We were very fortunate to obtain an unrestricted grant from the Southern Family from Calgary, Canada of \$5 million to develop a new Cerebral Palsy program. Our hospital's Charitable Foundation helped put together a comprehensive concept of clinical care, community outreach, and research that impressed the Southern Family, as well as also our hospital Board of Directors who provided another \$5 million in matching funds! With this \$10 million "seed money" we have had other donors contribute as well and are well on our way to our complete goal of \$20 million. These are indeed exciting times.

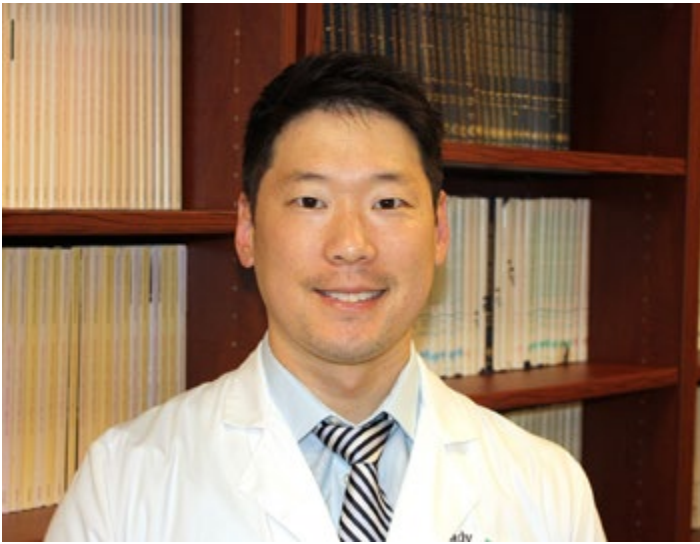
Our first steps are going to be developing an actual location to house the Cerebral Palsy Center, and it will be located at a building nearby our main campus (7920 Frost Street-across from Sharp Memorial Hospital). The plans are for 12 examination rooms, a state-of-the-art motion analysis laboratory for evaluation of neuromuscular patients (as well as sports patients), and an on-site radiology suite. We will also have endowed chairs for a research director and a clinical director of the CP Center. With additional funding, we will have the ability to perform more basic science and translational research in conjunction with our clinical work and research.

This is such a huge gift to our orthopedic department and we are very honored by the Southern Family. Because of the enormity of the project, Hank Chambers will be stepping down from his role as Education Director and directing all of his energy to getting this program up and running. Stay tuned for more details in the future on this dream coming true.



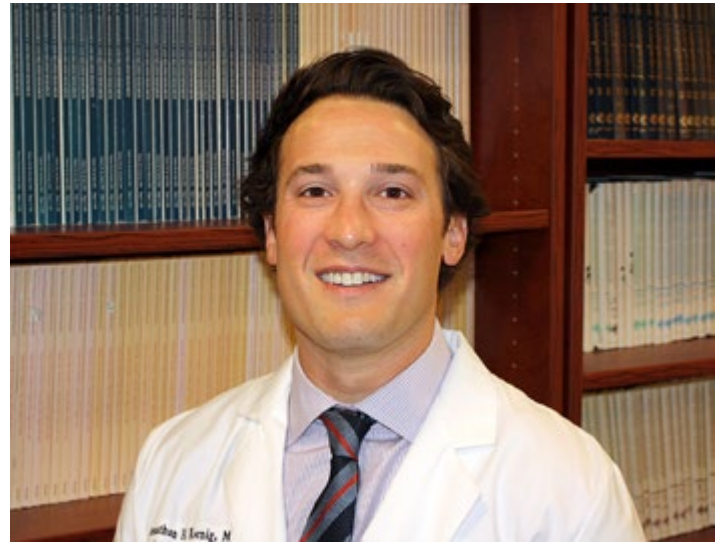
# 2018-2019 Fellows – Rady Children's Hospital

The RCHSD/UCSD fellowship program in children's orthopedics and scoliosis surgery remains among the most sought after in North America. The balance of training that our fellows receive covers all areas of children's orthopedics as well as providing excellent research possibilities. In addition, we arrange for our fellows to be responsible for primary call several nights each month, under the supervision of a senior staff mentor, which allows them to develop independent decision-making skills. Analysis of surgical training in North America indicates that titrating responsibility in a graduated fashion is imperative to the successful education of senior trainees, and this concept has become synonymous with our program. We are proud of our fellows who are graduating this year and we congratulate them on their accomplishments.



**Peter Hahn, MD**

Dr. Hahn graduated from medical school and completed his residency at the University of California, Irvine. His research activities included evaluating the relationship between infantile trochlear dysplasia and DDH. He also participated in a study of stability in slipped capital femoral epiphysis. Three of this year's graduating fellows will be staying in California following graduation. Dr. Hahn will be moving to the Los Angeles area and working at Miller Children's & Women's Hospital in Long Beach.



**Jonathan Koenig, MD**

Dr. Koenig graduated from medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed his residency at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. While in San Diego his research included the evaluation of the predictive validity of a physical therapy return to sport test. Dr. Koenig also plans to stay in California following his fellowship and will join a UCLA affiliated private practice in Los Angeles.

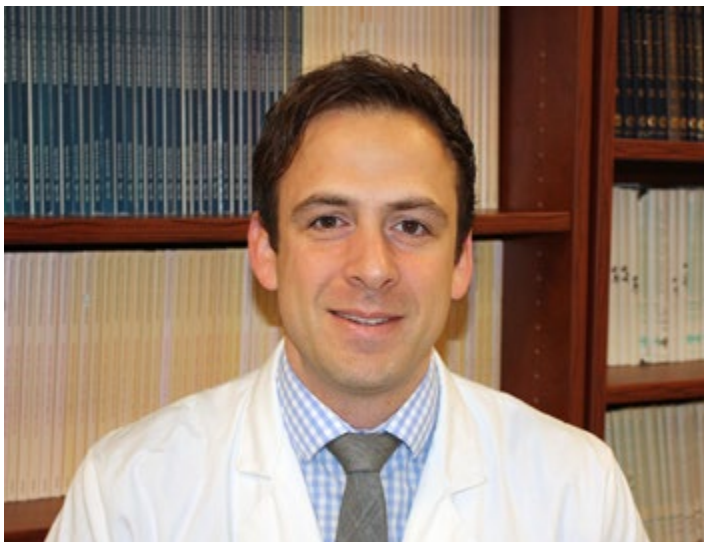


Miller Children's & Women's Hospital



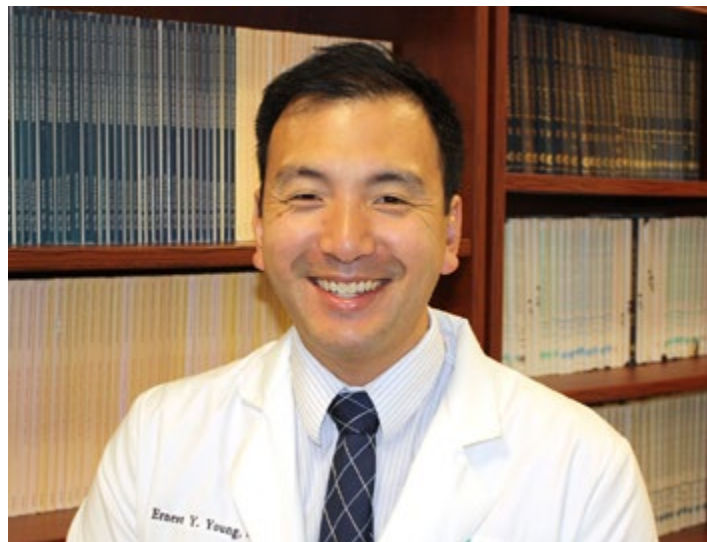
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

# 2018-2019 Fellows – Rady Children's Hospital



**Ronald Roiz, MD**

Dr. Roiz graduated from medical school at the University of Illinois, Chicago and completed his residency at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. While in San Diego his research included the 3D changes in spinal alignment with a TLSO brace. Following his fellowship, Dr. Roiz will move up the road to Loma Linda, CA where he will be joining prior fellows Scott Nelson (class of 2003), and Corey Fuller (class of 2016), at Loma Linda University Medical Center.



**Ernest Young, MD**

Dr. Young graduated from medical school at Case Western Reserve University and completed his residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Dr. Young studied cellulitis that required orthopedic intervention during his fellowship year. He is the only fellow from this year's class that is leaving California upon graduation. He will be joining former fellow Ryan Goodwin (class of 2004) at the Cleveland Clinic.



Loma Linda University Medical Center



Cleveland Clinic

*“Character is molded in the mundane of the valley, not simply showcased on the mountaintop.”*  
– Anonymous



# Arriving Fellows – 2019-2020

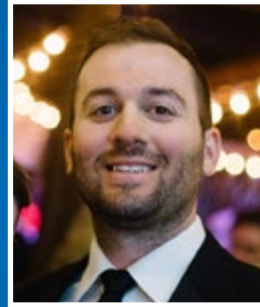
The process of applying, interviewing, and being accepted to one of the top-ranked fellowship programs in children's orthopedics is a demanding process. Each year we receive 40-50 applications and narrow these down to a smaller group that we can interview and then select the very best of these candidates. The surgeons listed below will arrive August 1, 2019 to begin their academic year. They are outstanding young orthopedic surgeons from throughout North America and we look forward to working with them.



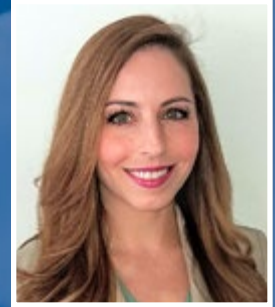
**Jessica Burns, MD, MPH**  
University of Arizona, Phoenix



**Clarabelle DeVries, MD**  
Washington University at St. Louis



**Hakan Pehlivan, MD**  
University of Virginia



**Megan Severson, MD**  
University of Alabama, Birmingham

## **Jessica Burns, MD, MPH**

Undergraduate: Arizona State University, BS Biochemistry

Medical school: University of Arizona College of Medicine

Residency: University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix

## **Clarabelle DeVries, MD**

Undergraduate: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, BS Materials Science and Engineering

Medical School: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Residency: Washington University at St. Louis – Barnes Jewish Hospital

## **Hakan Pehlivan, MD**

Undergraduate: University of Virginia, BA Biology

Medical school: University of Virginia

Residency: University of Virginia

## **Megan Severson, MD**

Undergraduate: University of Wisconsin – Madison, BS Biochemistry, BS Medical Microbiology and Immunology

Medical school: Baylor College of Medicine

Residency: University of Alabama - Birmingham

## **Future Fellows – 2019 Match (for 2020-2021 Academic Year)**

We are happy to announce that we have matched with the outstanding residents listed below

### **Anthony Catanzano, MD**

Duke University

### **Jessica Hughes, MD**

Baylor Scott & White

### **Philip Fontenot, MD**

University of South Florida

### **Brock Kitchen, DO**

University of Texas, San Antonio

# Medical Student Research Fellow

## Medical Student Research Fellow

*Megan Fischer-Colbrie, BS*

This year we had the pleasure of working with third year medical student Megan Fischer-Colbrie. Megan grew up in San Francisco and attended Stanford University, where she completed her Bachelor of Sciences degree while competing on the Varsity Women's Swim Team. She started medical school at the University of California San Diego in 2015. After completing her third year of studies, she decided to dedicate a full year of research focusing on pediatric orthopedic diagnostics and imaging. Her primary project was with Dr. Salil Upasani and our Hip Research Team. She worked to develop a computed tomography based classification system to predict epiphyseal stability in the treatment of slipped capital femoral epiphysis. She had the opportunity to present this work at our annual Visiting Professorship to Dr. Daniel Sucato. She also worked to characterize and determine the clinical significance of the rare navicular medial cuneiform coalition and the accessory anterolateral talar facet with Drs. Scott Mubarak and Katie Rickert. Finally, she performed a risk analysis for venous thromboembolism in pediatric orthopedic patients as a contribution to a multi-center study under Dr. Salil Upasani and CORTICES (The Children's Orthopedic Trauma and Infection Consortium for Evidence Based Study). This year of work should result in a number of peer-reviewed publications and give her the opportunity to present at local and national orthopedic meetings. She is currently finishing her 4th year of medical school and will be applying for an Orthopedic Surgery residency next year.



Megan presenting her work on predicting epiphyseal stability at this year's Visiting Professorship.

## New Education Coordinator

### Education Coordinator

*Emilia Duggan, BA*



We welcome Emilia Duggan who is assuming the role of Education Coordinator for the pediatric orthopedic department at Rady Children's Hospital. She will be providing administrative support and coordination for our educational programs including the fellowship training program, resident student and international visitors, and academic functions/events. Prior to RCHSD, Emilia worked as the coordinator of the cardiac anesthesia fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital. She recently moved to San Diego with her husband who is in the US Navy. Emilia holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Health Promotion in Public Health from Coastal Carolina University.

# Leadership/Accolades

## SRS President:



### Peter Newton, MD

Dr. Newton is currently serving as the president of the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS), an office which was transferred to him this past fall at the 2018 annual meeting in Bologna, Italy. This year's annual meeting will be held in Montreal, Canada where the local host will be Dr. Stefan Parent (class of 2004).

Dr. Newton has proven to be a strong leader here at RCHSD, within the Harms Study group, as past president of POSNA, and through various offices held with the SRS. He is no doubt continuing this tradition in his current position as SRS president.

To help with this year's program, Dr. Firoz Miyajji (class of 2006) is chair of the program committee and Dr. Burt Yaszay is chair of the education committee, which will have an emphasis on "Improving Patient Outcomes through Peak Surgeon Performance".

The conference is sure to have a remarkable program and one of which Dr. Newton and the San Diego affiliated team can be proud.

*"Talent  $\times$  Effort = Skill.  
Skill  $\times$  Effort = Achievement."*

– Angela Duckworth

## Hibbs Award:



### Burt Yaszay, MD

Dr. Yaszay won the Russell A. Hibbs Award for the best clinical paper presented at the 2018 Scoliosis Research Society annual meeting for his work with the Harms Study Group evaluating 10 year outcomes after selective fusions for AIS. The award is based on a review of the submitted abstracts and papers as well as a vote by the conference attendees. The paper was published earlier this year in JBJS:

#### **Ten-Year Outcomes of Selective Fusions for Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis.**

Louer C Jr, Yaszay B, Cross M, Bartley CE, Bastrom TP, Shah SA, Lonner B, Cahill PJ, Samdani A, Upasani VV, Newton PO.  
J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2019 May 1;101(9):761-770.

### Luis A. Goldstein Best Clinical Research Poster Award

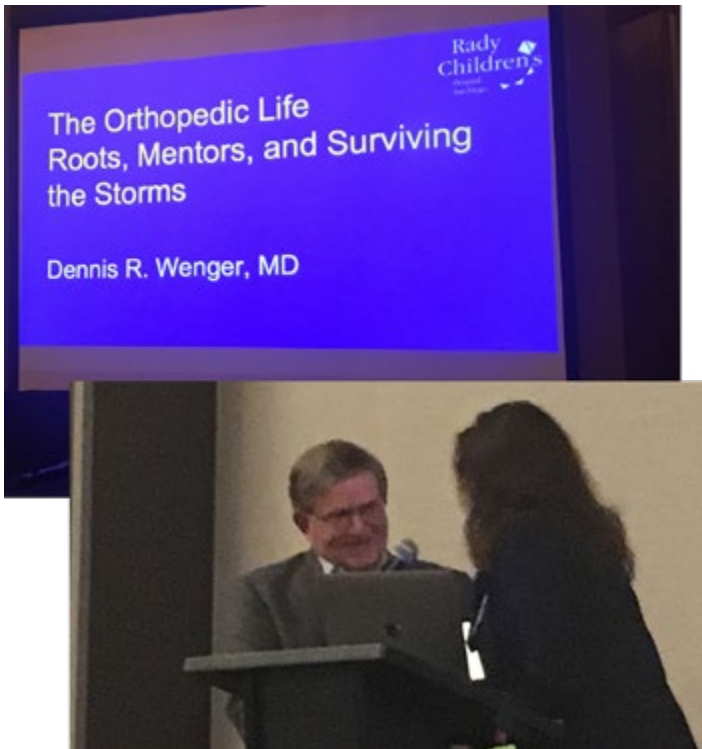
This was a big year for us at SRS as Dr. Yaszay also took home the best clinical research poster award for his paper entitled:

#### **The Role of Traditional Growing Rods in the Era of Magnetically-Controlled Growing Rods for the Treatment of Early-Onset Scoliosis**

Varley E, Yaszay B, Pawelek J, Mundis G, Oetgen M, Sturm P, Akbarnia B, Growing Spine Study Group



## San Diego Orthopedic Society Distinguished Service Award



### Other Leadership News

This past year, some of our staff and past fellows have been appointed to leadership roles. Eric Edmonds started his term as the Secretary of POSNA. Maya Pring became the Chair of the Surgery Department for RCHSD. Firoz Myanji (class of 2006) is the current Chair of the SRS Program Committee and is serving his second year as an At-Large member of the POSNA Board. Burt Yaszay is the current Chair of the SRS Education Committee. Bob Cho (class of 2010) is the current POSNA Communications Council Chair and Kevin Shea (class of 1998) is the current POSNA QSVI Council Chair.

*‘It’s not enough that we do our best,  
sometimes we have to do what’s required’*

— Sir Winston Churchill

### Dennis Wenger, MD

Dr. Wenger was honored with the San Diego Orthopedic Society Distinguished Service Award this year. Many of his partners, former fellows, residents, and ancillary staff were in attendance as he accepted the award and gave an insightful, and humorous, presentation on the value of strong roots, choosing a diverse set of mentors, and tips on how to live a fulfilling life that allows you to have a positive impact on the community you serve without sacrificing the non-orthopedic aspects of one's life. Congratulations Dr. Wenger!



June of 2019 also marked the last month that Dr. Wenger would operate. The OR staff held a potluck in his honor, even bringing back some familiar faces from the past. Many of you will recognize Norma Gatpayat next to Dr. Wenger, she retired in 2011 but came back “home” for the celebration. Dr. Wenger will continue his clinical practice as well as his teaching and research roles.



### Salil Upasani, MD

Nine months ago 14 year old Keane Webre-Hayes (center above) was bitten by a 12 foot great white shark while lobster diving off the coast of Encinitas. Prior to his injury he was a left handed pitcher. He was bitten on his left side extending from his face to his abdomen. Dr. Upasani was able to save his arm and after extensive physical therapy with John Luu from NAKOA PT (left above) he was able to throw out the first pitch at a Padres game.

# Giving Back – Mexico

## Kids First – San Miguel de Allende, Mexico

*Kathleen D. Rickert, MD*

I attended my third annual trip to San Miguel de Allende this May with Kids First. This was the 27th annual trip and the 14th year in San Miguel. We traveled to Mexico this year with a team of 30 people consisting of orthopaedic surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurse anesthetists, OR and PACU nurses, a therapist/orthotist and multiple other ancillary colleagues who keep the trip running smoothly.

We arrive as a team in San Miguel on Saturday and begin clinic early Sunday. Those of us not seeing patients in clinic on Sunday are busy unpacking our supplies and setting up our OR and PACU space. Nearly all of the supplies are donated by US hospitals and medical companies then transported to the site. Our single day clinic on Sunday allowed us to evaluate nearly 200 patients and recommend surgery for 50 patients this year. Our busy Sunday translated into a full and productive week of surgery. In total, we completed over 160 procedures on those 50 patients with between 14 to 16 surgeries per day.

“Teamwork makes the dream work” on this trip and every person plays a vital role in keeping the forward momentum, from start to finish. The week is all about patient care and working as a team. We operate, eat, and stay together as a team. Additionally, the community of San Miguel, along with the hospital and local government make a significant contribution to making these trips successful. A willingness of the local infrastructure to work with Kids First, as well as coordinated efforts by those traveling to make this mission a success, ensures that the patients receive the best possible care, along with appropriate follow-up throughout the year after the mission team heads back home. I look forward to years of continued involvement.



Photos courtesy of Virtually There Productions by Kendell Madden ([www.KenMadden.Smugmug.com](http://www.KenMadden.Smugmug.com))



# Giving Back – Ecuador

## Fellows Give Back with Annual “Working Reunion”

*Written by Matthew Schmitz, MD*

Since leaving Rady Children’s in the summer of 2012, the class of 2011-2012 have remained close friends and work colleagues with an annual pilgrimage to Guayaquil, Ecuador each fall to help serve the local community.

Matt Schmitz (San Antonio Military Medical Center) first made the trip with Maya Pring in 2013. The next year, when Dr. Pring couldn’t make it, he recruited Jake Schulz (Montefiore Children’s Hospital, NY). Then, in 2015, Eric Fornari (Montefiore Children’s Hospital) and Chris Bray (Greenville Health System, SC) joined to make it a true “working reunion”. Since that time, the 4 fellows have traveled together each October for a 9 day sojourn to help care for the local Ecuadorian population. In 2018, they recruited 2013 Rady alum Brian Scannell (Charlotte, NC) to help as Dr. Fornari was unable to attend.

The fellows lead a team of 25 people, including: anesthesiologists, nurses and support staff who travel down to Guayaquil. The week schedule involves a large clinic on Sunday followed by almost non-stop surgery sometimes late into the night/early morning on Monday and continuing through Friday, with a team clean up of the facility on Saturday before the flight home on Sunday. The fellows typically perform 20-30 cases during the week, a large majority that include hip open reduction and osteotomies for unrecognized/untreated hip dysplasia in walking age children. Even in their busy clinical practices the fellows will collectively do only a handful of open reductions for DDH each year; but, they routinely perform 10-12 such cases in their yearly “hip fellowship” down in Ecuador.



Drs. Jake Schulz, Matt Schmitz, Chris Bray, and Brian “Scooter” Scannell.

This fall, Eric Fornari and Matt Schmitz have two further obligations to help the people of Ecuador. They are invited faculty for a POSNA sponsored trauma course in conjunction with the national orthopaedic meeting in Ecuador. Moreover, they are working in country with the International Hip Dysplasia Institute to combat the epidemic of DDH. Also, Chris Bray and Matt Schmitz will be sharing their experiences in a symposium at the June CORD conference associated with annual AOA meeting in San Diego.

The “working reunion” trip is funded and assisted by Project Perfect World, a nonprofit company that has been working with the local children’s hospital in Guayaquil since 1995 and supports another team led by Rick Schwend (POSNA Past-President) with a spring trip, as well. The class of 2012 has taken an active role in fund raising to help defray costs ([www.projectperfectworld.com](http://www.projectperfectworld.com)) for these Ecuadorian children and their families.

All four fellows from the class of 2012 thoroughly enjoy their yearly reunion and have pledged to continue for the next 20 years or until their service is no longer necessary (as long as their wives will allow it). Having the opportunity to give back is truly a reward and helps recharge the fellows for their busy clinical and academic practices at home while allowing them to take what they learned at Rady Children’s to an international stage.



Dr. Schmitz and Dr. Scannell with a patient.



Drs. Bray, Schmitz, Fornari, and Schulz in the OR.



## Research Team Year in Review

*Written by Tracey Bastrom, MA*

We've had a busy but exciting past few weeks, with the annual POSNA meeting in Charlotte followed by our annual Visiting Professor here in San Diego. It was great to see those of you that made it to one or both events.

This year's POSNA meeting was a great success for us. We had a wonderful turnout at our reunion, with help from Charlotte local Dr. Brian Scannell (fellowship year 12-13) in selecting the fantastic venue. The department was represented during the POSNA program with 15 podium presentations and 2 poster presentations. Dr. Newton presented 2 papers that were award nominees; one in the clinical section and one in basic science. Drs. Edmonds and Pennock were co-authors on the clinical award winning paper – results from the multi-center FACTS study on clavicle fractures. The study was presented by Dr. Benton Heyworth from the lead study site, Boston Children's Hospital. Our department has participated in the study since 2012 and was among the leading contributors of subjects. It was great to see the hard work of so many individuals and centers recognized and even more rewarding to understand that the research we do is truly making a difference in providing the best care to patients across the country.

The week after POSNA, we hosted Dr. Dan Sucato as our annual Visiting Professor. Our fellows, residents, and medical students did a fantastic job presenting their research projects. Dr. Sucato's breadth of knowledge, humor, and dynamic teaching style made for an outstanding event.

A recent internal report highlighted the increase in productivity of our department. From 2005-2007, we were averaging 12 publications per year. In the last 3 years, that average has increased to 41 per year. The growing attending staff and research personnel have been instrumental in this expansion. However, the demand for increasing levels of evidence and critical reviews during the manuscript review process is on the rise. We are always evaluating our internal processes to help ensure the questions we are asking are relevant and our methodology to answer those questions is as sound as possible.

We have a growing interest from the UCSD medical student population in working with us for both summer and academic year research. We have begun a semi-formal process of interviewing medical students for summer spots in early February. This process helps ensure adequate time and resources for successful completion of projects.

We've had some changes to our team since the last newsletter, so you'll notice some new names and faces. Alyssa Carroll, MPH has taken over for sports and trauma research coordination. Kelly Bouteille, BS has joined the team to provide additional support to the sports and trauma research center.

Everyone is already looking forward to POSNA 2020, which will be held here in San Diego. We hope to catch up with many of you then!



Tracey Bastrom (Research Manager), JD Bomar (Hip), Alyssa Carroll (Sports/Trauma), Carlo Munar (Spine), Aileen Laurente (Spine), Kelly Bouteille (Sports/Trauma), Sara Acevedo (Administrative Associate), Harsha Bandaralage (OBRC), Carrie Bartley (Spine), Adam Bunn (OBRC), Christy Farnsworth (Translational Research Manager).

## OBRC and Translational Research Year in Review

*Written by Christine Farnsworth, MS*

Our productivity this academic year can be measured by the two manuscripts published, an additional six manuscripts submitted for consideration of publication, and eight research abstracts that were presented at national and international meetings including IMAST, POSNA, AAOS, ORS, and the UCSD Pediatric Research Symposium. But as always, we consider our greatest accomplishment to be our support of all the Rady Children's staff (11 pediatric orthopedic surgeons plus four fellows and an occasional resident). In doing so, we have had a hand in answering some important clinical questions and provided both tools and resources for the training of future orthopedic surgeons, scientists and engineers.

Patient Specific 3D-printed models are routinely being generated for clinical care from CT scan imaging and printed in our machine shop using the simple 3D printer. Twenty-two prints have been created in the last year which have allowed surgeons to understand a patient's orthopedic deformity more completely, to plan for surgical correction by performing osteotomies of the model, and to evaluate surgical implant type and size before entering the operating room (this includes variable materials to replicate both bone and cartilage). Models include cervical, thoracic and lumbar spines with deformities, feet requiring surgical correction, hips including the full pelvis and proximal femurs, and tumors that encapsulate bony structures. We have also developed collaboration with the 3D Innovations Lab (3DI Lab) at Rady Children's Hospital and Director Justin Ryan, PhD. This lab has several 3D printers (which are much more sophisticated than the one in our lab!), and Dr. Ryan is dedicated to support cardiologists and all hospital care givers by providing 3D visualization of patients' conditions with a very short turnaround time (within a day).

Calculating hip coverage angles in 3D has also become a regular pre-operative metric used in surgical planning for most cases involving acetabular reorientation osteotomies.

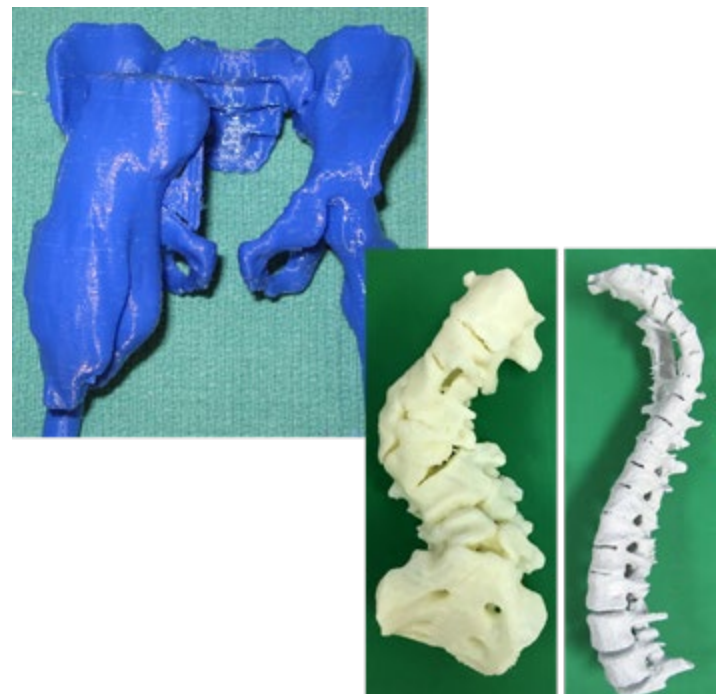
We are very grateful to continue research collaborations with several UCSD labs of excellence, including:

**Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Muscle Physiology lab** (PIs Samuel Ward PT PhD and Bahar Shahidi PhD). We continue to work towards a better understanding of tissue components and muscular architecture involved with scoliosis. Currently, histology and MR imaging of muscle from concave vs. convex sides of curves are being evaluated and compared.

**Systems Biology & Systems Medicine Lab** (PI Shankar Subramaniam). More work continues to evaluate RNA expression in scoliosis muscle from patients with different deformity origins (congenital, neuromuscular, idiopathic) with the goal of determining if there is potential for a muscular component in AIS etiology.

**Department of Bioengineering: Cartilage Tissue Engineering Lab** (PI Robert Sah MD ScD). Studies include evaluation of hip synovial fluid of patients with DDH, 3D shape analysis of growth cartilage and joint surfaces and biomechanical analysis of spinal morphology change during surgical corrections procedures.

**Biological Sciences Cell and Developmental Biology** PI Kimberly Cooper PhD). We are working to develop a bipedal animal model for DDH – stay tuned!



Salil Upasani, MD and Justin Ryan, PhD discuss materials that best simulate bone when it is cut.

Pediatric orthopedic deformities made clear using 3D prints and visualization.

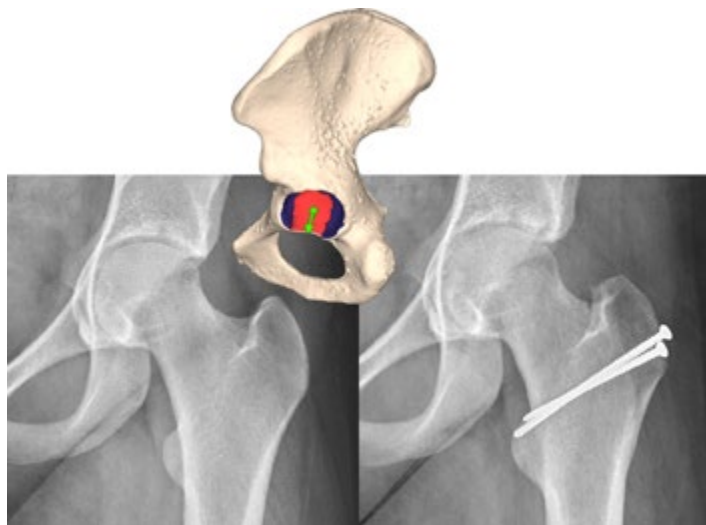


## Hip Team Year in Review

*Written by Vidyadhar Upasani, MD*

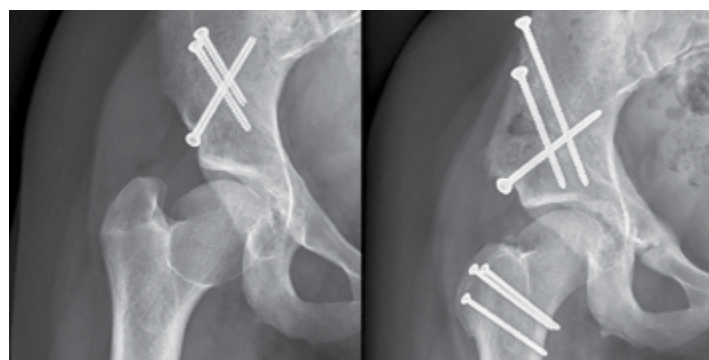
Since 2009, the International Center for Pediatric and Adolescent Hip Disorders at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego has been a leader in the treatment of pediatric and adolescent hip conditions. The Center's goal is to provide world-class care by applying the knowledge gained through clinical experience and research to allow our patients to live to their full potential. Our medical and surgical care is tailored to the special needs of the growing child. Our team of surgeons is supported by nurses, physician extenders, orthopedic technologists, and research associates who allow us to provide the absolute best, cutting-edge care for our patients. In this issue, we present some of the interesting cases treated this year, as well as notes on research projects that were presented at the POSNA Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina.

We continue to grow as a referral source for complex patients. We recently treated a 12 year-old girl who presented with one year of right hip pain after having extensive treatment as a child in Mexico and at the Shriners' Hospital in Los Angeles. As can be seen on her pre-operative imaging, she had a significant proximal femoral deformity likely due to previous avascular necrosis and persistent acetabular dysplasia on that side. She underwent a right surgical hip dislocation with osteochondroplasty and relative femoral neck lengthening with distalization of the greater trochanter, followed by a Bernese periacetabular osteotomy.



Our hip research program continues to be an active member of various multi-center prospective study groups including the International Hip Dysplasia Registry (IHDR), the International Perthes Study Group (IPSG), and we will soon begin collaborating with the SCFE Longitudinal International Prospective Registry (SLIP) and the HIP HOPE Network established by Dr. Kishore Mulpuri at BC Children's Hospital in Vancouver, Canada. We also continue our strong collaborations with basic scientists at the University of California San Diego including Robert Sah, MD, ScD at the UCSD Jacobs School of Engineering and Kim Cooper, PhD in the Division of Biological Sciences, Section of Cell and Developmental Biology.

Two of our clinical projects were selected as podium presentations at the recent POSNA annual meeting in North Carolina. Dr. Craig Louer, our recent clinical fellow graduate who is now working at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, presented a project looking at Staged versus Single Event Bilateral Hip Surgery in Children with Spastic Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy. And Dr. Salil Upasani presented our clinical outcomes of Surgical Containment in Patients with Epiphyseal Dysplasia.



Another interesting case, which demonstrates the importance of pre-operative three-dimensional (3D) assessment of acetabular morphology developed at Rady Children's Hospital, is seen here. This 18 year-old female presented with 18 months of left hip pain. She had been diagnosed with coxa profunda and had failed conservative measures. Our treatment options were to perform a reverse periacetabular osteotomy or a rim trim procedure to decrease the acetabular coverage. Our 3D analysis demonstrated significant over-coverage in the superior, superior-posterior, superior-anterior, and anterior octants. She was also found to have increased weight bearing surface area. This detailed assessment allowed us to precisely plan the area of acetabular rim trim which was performed through a surgical hip dislocation.

Dr. Upasani was also the Co-Chair of the POSNA Hip Subspecialty Session along with Dr. Travis Matheney from Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. Upasani focused on cases of focal and whole head femoral avascular necrosis and had invited Drs. Patrick Whitlock (Cincinnati Children's Hospital), Courtney O'Donnell (Children's Hospital Colorado), David Podeswa (Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children) and John Masonis (OrthoCarolina) to discuss surgical treatment options including biologics, allografts, femoral osteotomy, hip arthrodesis and total hip arthroplasty.

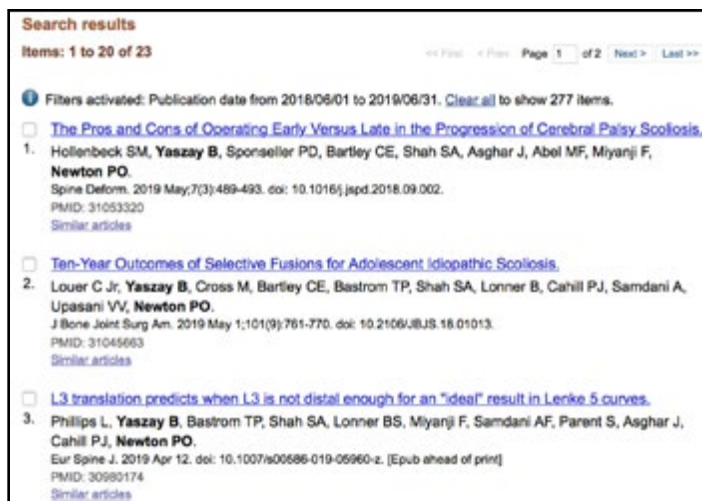


## Scoliosis and Spine Deformity Center Year in Review

*Written by Burt Yaszay, MD*

Rady Children's Hospital continues to be a leader in the treatment of pediatric and some adult spinal diseases. This year has been a busy year especially with regard to the Scoliosis Research Society. Dr. Newton assumed his role as President following the annual meeting in Bologna, Italy. While maintaining an active clinical practice as well as running the Orthopedic division, he has worked tirelessly to further propel the SRS as the leading society for spinal deformity treatment. His tenure will culminate with the annual meeting in Montreal where both Drs. Yaszay and Miyani (prior RCHSD fellow) were active in creating the program. Dr. Miyani serves as the chair of the program committee and is responsible for the academic program while Dr. Yaszay serves as the education chair and is responsible for the education program.

Education continues to be an important pillar of the program. Drs. Newton and Yaszay recently returned from Beijing where they participated in the Peking Union Medical College International Congress on Spine Deformity. Together with other leaders from around the world, they educated over 300 spine surgeons from throughout China. While all three physicians travel the world to educate, they are most proud of the education that occurs at RCHSD. Five days a week, residents, fellows and visitors have the opportunity to learn either in the clinic, or operating room, setting. Every year for approximately the past 20 years, a spine tutorial has also been held at RCHSD. Initiated by Dr. Newton and now chaired by Dr. Yaszay, this two-day event brings surgeons from across the country and combines a live surgery, didactic sessions, and a cadaveric surgical lab. Dr. Newton started the tutorial as a way to introduce and educate other surgeons in the techniques of anterior thoracoscopic spine surgery. As surgery moved more towards a posterior approach, the tutorial evolved demonstrating the latest techniques in three-dimensional



The spine team continues to be active with 23 publications cited in PubMed since last year's newsletter.

correction of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. In addition to the three surgeons, Christine Farnsworth and JD Bomar remain instrumental to the tutorial as they ensure all the technical aspects run smoothly.

This past year was another strong year for spine research. All 3 doctors are active, ensuring that RCHSD remains on the podium in all the meetings with which they participate. Dr. Newton had 2 papers nominated for awards at POSNA, one for Best Clinical Paper and one for Best Basic Science Paper. Dr. Yaszay received the Hibbs award for best clinical paper and the Luis A. Goldstein award for best clinical poster at SRS. Of course, this could not happen without the effort of the research team lead by Tracey Bastrom and Carrie Bartley. This is exemplified by their ability to coordinate the various projects as well as getting all 3 busy physicians in the same room to have a research meeting. In addition to the usual projects, the research team is becoming involved in more rigorous FDA studies. Dr. Upasani is beginning a study to collect data to develop pediatric indications for Exparel, while Dr. Yaszay will be serving as PI for an IDE trial on a new intrathecal drug delivery system.

The primary focus of the Spine team will always be treating the patient. Under the guidance of Drs. Newton, Yaszay, and Upasani, our team of dedicated advanced practice providers and nurses ensure excellent clinical care outside the operating room. In addition to preparing patients for treatment or triaging questions after treatment, our clinical staff are critical to providing the necessary time and resources needed by patients and their families. In the operating room, our dedicated spine anesthesiologists, neurophysiologist, and OR team ensure efficient and safe treatment. Together, the spine team ensures the best care no matter how simple or complex the pathology may be.



Dr. Yaszay guides fellow Dr. Young, and resident Dr. Howard, through the intricacies of arthroscopic surgery in the cadaver lab.

# Sports Medicine for the Young Athlete

## 360 Sports Medicine Year in Review

*Written by Eric Edmonds, MD*

It is hard to imagine that the 360 Sports Medicine program is now seven years old, growing and changing, just like the children that we treat. As mentioned in last year's letter, we formally expanded our reach into Southern Riverside County by being the first Division to commit to a full-time presence in the new Murrieta office building. This has been a tremendous success! Dr. Cheng, who had been one of our part-time Sports Medicine colleagues working out of the Oceanside (North County office), decided to leave his part-time Emergency Medicine work and join us Full-Time as our representative in the new facility. His clinical volume has grown tremendously and it has been a welcome reprieve for the families of Riverside County who would otherwise have to make an average hour long (one-way trip) to see us in one of the other offices.

Seven years ago, the 360 Sports Program began as a program without borders, uncontained by a singular location. But, to many of our patients, the clinic and physical therapy space of the 7910 Frost Street building was the hub. Intended as a pilot for bringing our model together in a single facility, the proof of success was in the hyperbolic growth of the sports physical therapy program and the newly forged

# 360

sports  
medicine



Our new Murrieta office is now open and staffed full time.

relationships across disciplines that have led to annual co-hosted conferences for local primary care physicians, physical therapists, athletic directors, and athletic trainers. Recently, Dr. Chambers was able to secure a sizeable grant to augment the Southern California Cerebral Palsy Center and the Motion Analysis Laboratory. Since the "7910" hub was only intended as a short-term pilot (it didn't even have an in-clinic ability to obtain plain radiographs), the office space has been newly designated for the new home of our Motion Analysis Lab and the SCCPC. We are all excited to see this new adventure begin, and welcome the joint venture of the two Rady Children's programs.

Of course, our team has had continued success with podiums and posters at national meetings. We had multiple presentations at PRISM and POSNA, and will continue our run of presentations at AOSSM this summer. Moreover, our surgeons continue to shape the field of pediatric sports medicine with visiting professorships, serving as moderators and presiders, and being elected to positions of leadership in our professional societies.

Although we look forward to continued academic success in the 2019-2020 season, we are saddened to report that one of our stalwarts will be moving away. Our first athletic trainer, Kristina (Parvanta) Johnson, is heading to the Midwest. She has been a yeoman for our team and deserves a lot of credit for keeping both clinics and clinical research afloat. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors and hope that she looks back at her time with the 360 Sports Medicine program as memorable. Cheers, Poppy!



So long Kristina, we will miss you!



# New Orthopedic Staff

## New Orthopedic Staff Member

*Emily Cidambi, MD*



We will be welcoming our newest orthopaedic staff member, Dr. Emily Cidambi, in November of this year. She completed her residency at UC San Diego, a research fellowship at Rady Children's Hospital under Dr. Peter Newton, and most recently a Pediatric Orthopaedic Fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. Cidambi was born in Atlanta, GA and attended medical school at the Medical College of Georgia. During residency she completed research on spinal deformity, lower extremity deformity and hip pathology with Drs. Newton, Edmonds, and Upasani. During fellowship her research interests included lower extremity deformity.

Dr. Cidambi's primary clinical focus will be foot and ankle pathology as well as pediatric trauma. She trained with Dr. James Kasser and the lower extremity team at Boston Children's Hospital in multiple procedures including Ponsetti casting for clubfeet, foot and ankle deformity correction, and treatment of longitudinal deficiencies of the lower limb. She will be joining the lower extremity team with Dr.

Mubarak upon returning to RCHSD. Additionally she will be bringing a more regular surgeon presence to the Murrieta office, providing outreach to patients in this area who historically have had to travel a significant distance to the primary RCHSD campus.

After nearly 20 years of training for a career in professional ballet prior to entering orthopaedics, Dr. Cidambi plans to develop a dance medicine program. She looks forward to working with other sports medicine physicians in the community as well as with the dance schools and companies in Southern California. Additionally, as a prior resident at UC San Diego, she looks forward to the strong UCSD tradition of educating residents and fellows as a faculty member. She will focus her research in lower extremity and foot and ankle pathology, deformity and trauma, and provide clinical care from infants to young adults with foot and ankle conditions. We look forward to her return to San Diego to rejoin the Orthopaedic team at RCHSD.



Dr. Cidambi powering through clinic as a resident.



# 46th Annual David H. Sutherland Visiting Professorship



## Daniel Sucato, MD, MS

*Texas Scottish Rite Hospital  
Dallas, TX*

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*May 24, 2019*

Our program was honored to have Dr. Dan Sucato as the 46th Annual David Sutherland Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery Visiting Professor. Dr. Sucato is a pediatric orthopedic surgeon and Chief of Staff at the world famous Texas Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas.

Dr. Sucato is widely published in pediatric orthopedics with a focus in the areas of spinal deformity and hip conditions. He has delivered dozens of presentations worldwide and is a member of the Harms Spine Deformity study group and the ANCHOR (Academic Network of Conservational Hip Outcomes Research) study group.

Our fellows and residents presented their research and Dr. Sucato led the discussion. Our first full-year medical student research fellow, Megan Fischer-Colbric, also presented one of her many projects and performed at a level well above her pay grade. As is tradition, Dennis Wenger ended the conference with a rapid fire case presentation of common pediatric orthopedic surgical conditions.

Many thanks to the audience participants who challenged the presenters and added their expertise to the discussion. We especially appreciate seeing the faces of our former fellows coming back “home” to participate in this event. We ended the day with a wonderful dinner, hosted by Peter and Cathy Newton at their beautiful home in La Jolla.



Ernie Young, Jonathan Koenig, Peter Newton, Dan Sucato, Ron Roiz, and Peter Hahn posing for a photo during one of the breaks.

# 46th Annual David H. Sutherland Visiting Professorship



Dr. Sucato kicking off his talk about changes in the treatment of SCFE.



Former fellow Dr. Bob Cho (class of 2010) engaged in discussion. Also visible are former fellows John Schlechter (class of 2008) and Dan Bland (class of 2017).



Current fellow Dr. Koenig presenting his work on ACL return to sport tests.



Current fellow Peter Hahn, presenting a study evaluating the relationship between DDH and trochlear dysplasia.



Dr. Young spent the year studying surgical risk factors for cellulitis of the extremities.



Dr. Yaszay, Dr. Pring, Dr. Sucato, Dr. Cho, and Dr. Upasani enjoying the sunset from Dr. Newton's house during the end-of-VP after party festivities. Everyone was treated to a Green Flash! (well almost everyone...)



# Notes From A Former Fellow



## Walid Yassir, MD, MHCM

*Wayne State University School of Medicine*

*– Clinical Associate Professor*

*Children's Hospital of Michigan*

*– Chief, Orthopaedics*

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*(Fellow – 2000-2001)*

When invited to write in this year's fellow's update, I jumped at the chance. That year in San Diego has echoed through my career like a ringing bell. Not a day goes by that I don't refer back to something I learned there, how it was done there, and why it was done. I took my fellowship in the year 2000 after finishing my residency at Tufts. I was very excited to go to San Diego. It was a year of transition from apprentice to journeyman, and it did not disappoint. I have yet to experience such a heady mix of surgery, teaching, and research in the almost 20 years that have passed since. I became fast friends with my co-fellows Sean Early, who now practices in Malibu, and Phil Wilson, who is in Dallas. Together we formed a band of musketeers and I remember many a fond moment spent in the fellows' office. Sean brought the even keel of Southern California to my antagonistic northeastern way, forged during my upbringing and college years in New York best described as "Better Living Through Confrontation." Phil was easily the best surgeon among us, having come from a trauma mecca at UT Southwestern. Our skill sets complimented each other and helped us make it through the year.

My wife, Lisa, had taken a sabbatical from her position as junior faculty at Harvard to come to San Diego. She made connections in the UCSD community that year as she worked from home and continued her academic career. Our son Khaled was 2 years old and enjoyed his overpriced Montessori preschool atop Mount Solidad. We had jobs and a house waiting for us back in Boston, so we reluctantly returned, all the while wondering why we didn't stay in San Diego.

While that year was a blur, much of it stands out and these are only a few of the highlights. Peter Newton was making a name for himself doing thoracoscopic anterior fusions and we scrubbed many of these cases. By the end of the year we had some of the best training available anywhere in the technique. I remember also scrubbing Peter's first all pedicle screw posterior fusion. I had a digital camera to take pictures of it which was a bit of a novelty at the time.

We took care of so many elbow fractures during that year that we started calling it the 24538 fellowship. I got 4 supracondylar fractures my first night on call and I put them all on for the next day, much to Scott Mubarak's irritation. I explained to Dennis Wenger, whose service I was on, that it didn't seem like they needed to be done in the middle of the night, because they were all neurovascularly intact. To my surprise, he liked the idea, and soon papers emerged from Cincinnati saying that it was fine to wait until morning for many of these cases. We were ahead of the curve! Sean Early had told me



Dr. Yassir, his two sons Khaled and Samer, and wife Lisa.

a story about one of his attendings in Los Angeles who had fixed a supracondylar humerus fracture with a few too many pins. As fate would have it, I caught a particularly unstable fracture one night that I ended up fixing it with 5 pins. I was gearing up for a whipping at Friday morning conference when I remembered the story Sean told me. Scott Mubarak disapprovingly asked me why I had used 5 pins and my response, risky as it was, was that "I didn't think I could get in six". I saw his brow furrow and then he and the entire room erupted into laughter and I escaped, thanks only to Sean!

Ponseti casting for clubfeet was just re-emerging as a favored treatment at that time, and we started trying to do it in the clinic. We read the papers and watched Ponseti's video and then started casting children with the Ponseti method. As fate would have it, my first patient was an MRI tech with enough knowledge to make her a formidable patient. She approached me with healthy skepticism and insisted that I make all her child's casts while she was breast feeding. I obliged but she had failed to mention to me that her husband was also going to be videotaping the casting. About a week later I received a phone call from Dr. Ponseti himself telling me that he had watched "the videotape," and that although I was doing a good job, that I had to move my right index finger 3 mm medially and make more of a heel mold. While I thought the episode was humorous, I was initially turned off to the idea of having any kind of clubfoot practice.



# Notes From A Former Fellow



2001 fellows graduation. Dr. Yassir and his co-fellows created a website for the fellowship program and framed a print of the splash page and presented it to Dr. Sutherland.

Once I returned to Boston, I started my practice in earnest with Michael Goldberg as my mentor. I must admit, the first year was stressful. I had always been a confident surgeon, but I remember my first solo case, a fractional Achilles lengthening. I sat staring at the leg for a few seconds and realized that for 6 years, I had been making the incision wherever someone had drawn the purple line for me and now it was my turn to draw the line, and I had a moment of panic when I realized that I knew generally where to make the incision but not exactly where to make it. Once I caught my breath, I calmed down, drew my mark and the case proceeded uneventfully, but the lesson to be prepared stuck with me and I think of that first case often.

I was eventually recruited to join Rick Reynolds in Detroit as part of the group that would rebuild the pediatric program and residency and I somehow managed to convince Lisa to leave Boston, her childhood home and where her children had been born. I think it was only from a sense of adventure and challenge that she agreed to come with me to Detroit, which Boston magazine described as “a smoking necropolis” a week before we left.

Detroit was a great career opportunity for me, and it led to a lot of administrative roles, such as Service Chief, Associate Program Director, and Vice Chief of Staff, to name a few. I was also sent to the Harvard School of Public Health for a Master’s in Health Care Management which has been invaluable in my many roles and which also allowed me to make new friends after the age of 40, which is unusual. A group of us formed a society called the “Capra Society,” named for the Latin word for goat, based on an unrepeatable joke that I had once told them. We have met every year on a rotating basis since our graduation in 2011 and the trip is one of the highlights of my year.

In 2004 I started traveling to Palestine with the Palestine Children’s Relief Fund. I’ve operated all over Palestine, including Gaza, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Beit Jala, Ramallah, and most recently Nablus. A group of us have trained 2 pediatric orthopaedic surgeons, one of whom has a busy spine practice. It’s been a rewarding annual trip for me and last year I was honored with the Suha and Musa Nusair Humanitarian Award by the PCRF’s Detroit Chapter. The ability to mentor surgeons in Palestine has been one of the most

rewarding experiences in my career, and I continue to do so throughout the year through What’s App and Facebook.

My wife Lisa has been a true partner in all this while achieving much more than I ever did academically. After finishing her PhD at Harvard and then starting her career there, she came to Michigan and moved through the ranks to become a full Professor and the chief of her own research division in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Michigan. She also serves as an Assistant Dean for Research Faculty and I’m pretty sure she’s not done yet. She’s accomplished all this, been a great mother and example to our sons, while married to a typical surgeon who thinks that the whole world revolves around him! I’m not sure why she put up with me for so long, but I’m glad she does. I believe my secret is that I can still make her laugh and that I also do the dishes (which according to a recent New York Times article, may be the single greatest predictor of marital longevity).

In summary, I’ve had a great life and have been truly blessed since I left San Diego. It’s been challenging and stressful, but mostly fun. I’ve managed to be a husband, a father, a surgeon, a teacher, a student, a boss, a supportive partner, a jerk, and a team player. I haven’t accomplished everything I’ve wanted to, and am truly humbled to see what others have been able to accomplish in the same period, but I’ve had a great time along the way, made good friends, been part of a strong and happy family, and helped a lot more people than I’ve hurt. At 52, I am in that time in my career when Dennis Wenger told me that surgeons “go a little crazy,” and unchecked will start making up new operations and convincing themselves that everything they do is correct and innovative. Thankfully, I’ve been in academic centers all my life and my partners are not afraid to tell me if they think I’m acting strangely!

That year in San Diego was still one of the best of my life and I think of it often. I met so many wonderful people there and I’m glad to be part of the San Diego family. It’s great to see everyone at our annual reunions and I look forward to many more years of camaraderie.

– Wally Yassir – Detroit Michigan



The magic of photoshop was being explored by the ortho department in 2000. This image of Dr. Yassir and his classmates as the three Stooges was made by request from the fellows and found it’s way onto celebratory cakes, the visiting professor, and anywhere it could be worked in.

# Educating at Home

## Educating at Home

### *Local Orthopedic Teaching Activities*



Our staff surgeons hard at work deliberating on which fellows would be accepted for the class of 2021.



In addition to the adjacent baby hip ultrasound course, the fellows and residents also attend a thoracoscopic spine surgery course in our cadaver lab.



The spine division continued its long tradition of hosting tutorials with live surgical demonstration.



Dr. Rickert at a high school outreach program put on by RCHSD called the Summer Medical Academy exposing high school students to the world of pediatric orthopedics.



# Educating at Home



Fellows, residents, and med students are invited to our annual baby hip ultrasound course.



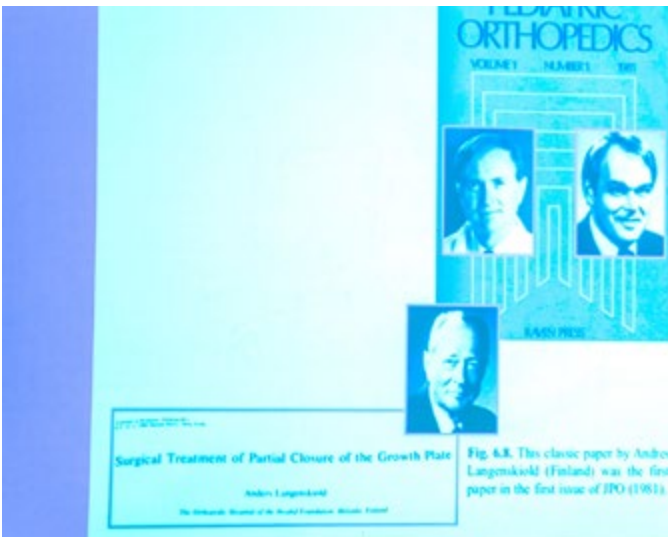
Our department and trainees were fortunate enough to have a mini visiting professorship from James Hui this year.



Dr. Rickert trialing a virtual reality training module to see if it is a good fit for our training program.



Dr. Pring instructing incoming residents on cast application during our "Resident Boot Camp" training event.



Dr. Wenger giving a brief talk about the history of pediatric orthopedics and our place in that history.





# POSNA Annual Meeting / Alumni Reunion

## POSNA Annual Meeting / Alumni Reunion

*May 15-18, 2019*

*Charlotte, North Carolina*

This year, POSNA (Pediatric Orthopedic Society of North America) held their annual meeting in Charlotte, NC. Once again, the Rady Children's Hospital Orthopedic department was well represented with fifteen podium presentations, one ePoster, and one paper poster. We were PI's on two papers that were award nominees this year, and we won the best Clinical Paper award for a multi-center study for which we were co-authors.

As is typically the case, the POSNA meeting is an excellent opportunity to catch up with former fellows. Emilia Duggan and Tracey Bastrom organized our annual Alumni Reunion and it went off without a hitch. The accompanying photos include many of our prior fellows who attended the meeting and our reunion event.



A San Diego sweep of the overall standings for the Pit Crew Challenge at the NASCAR Hall of Fame Closing Reception (Best 1-person, 2-person, and 3-person teams). Matt Hollenbeck (class of 2014), Eric Edmonds (class of 2008), Peter Newton, and Geordy Gantsoudes (class of 2010).



San Diego POSNA Presidents: Peter Newton, Steven Frick, Scott Mubarak.



3/4 of the class of 2016 with Dr. Wenger – Matt Ellington, David Lazarus, DRW, and Keith Bachman.





# POSNA Annual Meeting / Alumni Reunion



Austin-based past fellows Matt Ellington (class of 2016), Chris Souder (class of 2013) and his wife Holly, with Dennis Wenger pausing from their intense discussion about a visit to see the Texas Longhorn football team in action.



Eric Eisner (class of 2011) - with his Non-Member Attendee badge getting moral support from Doug Wallace (class of 1995).



Incoming fellow Hakan Pehlivan (he is very proud of the University of Virginia's men's basketball team) with former fellow Keith Bachman (class of 2016).



Ryan Goodwin (class of 2004), Stephan Parent (class of 2004) and Bob Cho (class of 2010) enjoying the warm Charlotte evening.



# POSNA Annual Meeting / Alumni Reunion



Fellowship class of 2013 – Brian Scannell, John Kemppainen, Chris Souder, and Avrum Joffe.



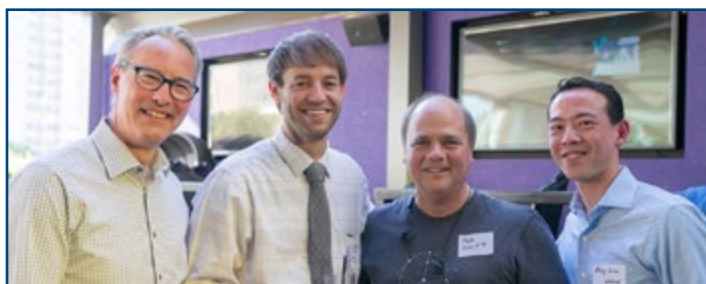
Former fellow Ryan Fitzgerald (Class of 2017) with our Nurse Practitioners Casey Abare and Lynn Manheim and current UCSD resident (interested in joining the Peds Ortho family) Amelia Lindgren.



Straight flush of fellows – classes 2002, 2001, and 2000 – Tim Oswald, Arji Mahadev, and Afshin Aminian.



Kathy and Dennis Wenger with Dr. Roposch who was one of our international fellows.



Dr. Newton with Josh Holt (class of 2018), Hank Chambers (class of 1990), and Ray Liu (class of 2010).



# POSNA Annual Meeting / Alumni Reunion



Dr. Newton with Tracey Bastrom (ortho research manager) and Afshin Aminian (class of 2000).



Josh Murphy (class of 2015), Firoz Miyanji (class of 2006), and Doug Wallace (class of 1995).



Luis Moraleda (class of 2010) and Eric Edmonds (class of 2008).

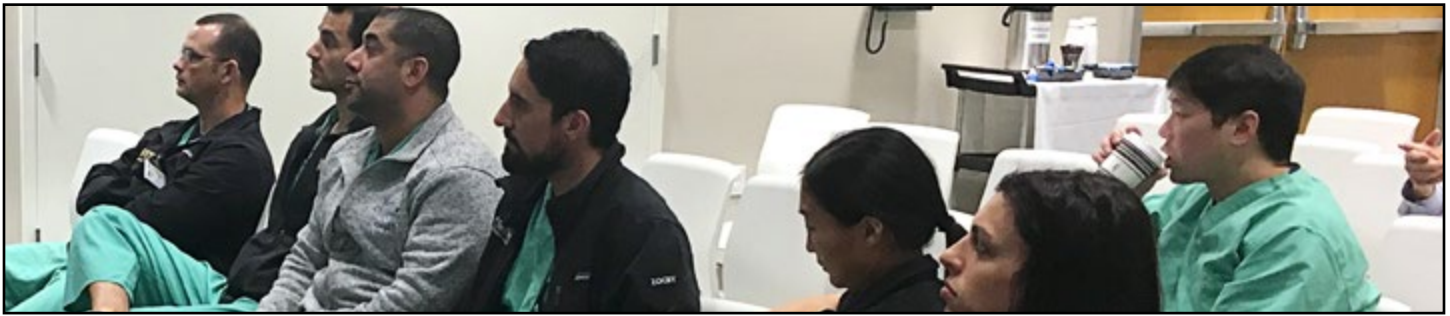


Andy Pennock with former fellows Vineeta Swaroop (class of 2008) and current fellow Ron Roiz.



Dr. Mubarak with 3/4 of the class of 2018 – Craig Louer, Julia Sanders, and Josh Holt.

# Documentation (Our Publications)



Orthopedic trainees absorbing the discussion during the dynamic Rady Children's Hospital Friday morning orthopedic x-ray review conference.

The Rady Children's Hospital-University of California San Diego orthopedic program continues as one of the world's leading centers for children's orthopedic clinical and biomechanical research. Our work is published in the most important orthopedic journals and is widely quoted. The publications listed below were produced by our department between July, 2017 – December 2018.

Ahmed SI, Bastrom TP, Yaszay B, Newton PO. 5-Year Reoperation Risk and Causes for Revision After Idiopathic Scoliosis Surgery. *Spine (Phila Pa 1976)*. 2017 Jul 1;42(13):999-1005. Epub 2016/11/11.

Auten JD, Naheedy JH, Hurst ND, Pennock AT, Hollenbach KA, Kanegaye JT. Comparison of pediatric post-reduction fluoroscopic- and ultrasound forearm fracture images. *Am J Emerg Med*. 2019 May;37(5):832-8. Epub 2018/08/11.

Bartley CE, Yaszay B, Bastrom TP, Shah SA, Lonner BS, Asghar J, Miyanji F, Samdani A, Newton PO. Perioperative and Delayed Major Complications Following Surgical Treatment of Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis. *J Bone Joint Surg Am*. 2017 Jul 19;99(14):1206-12. Epub 2017/07/19.

Bland DC, Pennock AT, Upasani VV, Edmonds EW. Measurement Reliability in Pediatric Lateral Condyle Fractures of the Humerus. *J Pediatr Orthop*. 2018 Sep;38(8):e429-e33. Epub 2018/06/20.

Brooks JT, Bastrom TP, Bartley CE, Lonner BS, Shah SA, Miyanji F, Asghar J, Newton PO, Yaszay B, Harms Study group. In Search of the Ever-Elusive Postoperative Shoulder Balance: Is the T2 UIV the Key? *Spine Deform*. 2018 Nov - Dec;6(6):707-11. Epub 2018/10/24.

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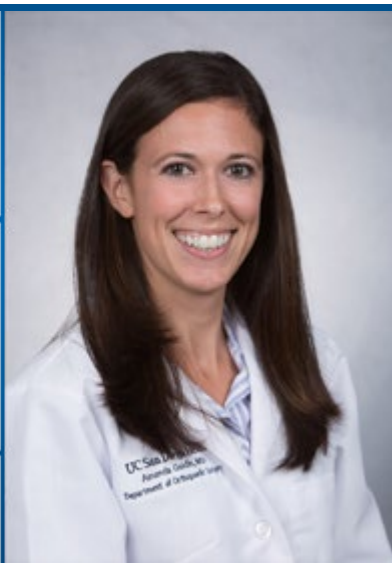
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# Documentation (Our Publications)



**Amanda Goldin, MD**  
UCSD PGY-5 Resident

Dr. Goldin has cultivated a collaborative relationship with Dr. Scott Mubarak during her time here which has produced three published papers on nonossifying fibromas (NOF) of the lower extremity. Congratulations Amanda!

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# Spreading the Word – Global Outreach

Each year, our orthopedic staff are asked to lecture as visiting professors and to present papers at conferences throughout North America and the world. The images below demonstrate these experiences during the most recent academic year. Visiting other centers, and attending national and international conferences, greatly improves our ability to provide state-of-the-art teaching, patient care, and research.



Peter Newton, Firoz Miyanji (class of 2006), Bob Cho (class of 2010), and Steve Frick (class of 1998) at IPOS 2018.



The Pediatric Orthopedic Anatomy Study Group met in Denver this year. Drs. Edmonds (class of 2008), Schmitz (class of 2012) and Shea (class of 1998) were in attendance. Dr. Shea runs the course and has developed a relationship with Allosource to dissect pediatric knees. Next year will feature elbows and ankles. There have been multiple publications to come out of this group the last 8 years.



Dr. Upasani was in attendance for the POSICON Silver Jubilee conference in Mumbai and presented on a variety of hip and spine topics.



# Spreading the Word – Global Outreach



Eric Edmonds was a Visiting Professor at the 6th Annual Alvin Crawford Lectureship at Cincinnati Children's. He was joined by Mohammad Diab (UCSF) to balance the discussion between spine and sports. Photographed with hosts Eric Wall, Dr Diab, Jim McCarthy, and Alvin Crawford.



Mark Abel (class of 1989), Hank Chambers (class of 1990), Keith Bachmann (class of 2016) when Hank was Visiting Professor at the University of Virginia.



The joys of travel... The annual PRiSM meeting was held in Atlanta this year, our Athletic Trainers Katie Veit (front) and Kristina Johnson (back) were in attendance. Their Uber to the airport on the way home broke down on the freeway and they had to walk the remaining couple of miles. As you can see from Katie's expression, they were both very excited about it.



Dr. Upasani at the MOACON meeting in Pune, India.



# Spreading the Word – Global Outreach



Peking – 2019. Drs. Newton and Yaszay were in attendance at the 15th annual Peking Union Medical College Hospital Congress on Spine Deformity, which was also the 1st International Early Onset Scoliosis Summit.



Bone's Steakhouse dinner at PRISM Annual Meeting 2019 in Atlanta. Dave Spence (Campbell's Clinic), Chris Bray (class of 2012), Matt Ellington (class of 2016), Eric Fornari (class of 2012), Matt Schmitz (class of 2012), Eric Edmonds (class of 2008) – clockwise from bottom left.



Brittany and Jaysson Brooks, Christy Farnsworth, Carrie Bartley, and Ryan and Elim Fitzgerald at SRS.



# Spreading the Word – Global Outreach



Chrissy Paik, PA-C and Dan Bland (class of 2017) at IPOS.



Former fellows took part in many competitive activities at POSNA this year – golf tournaments, pit crew challenges, and others...



These are the 4 former San Diego fellows (made up 25% of faculty) teaching at the: AAOS/POSNA Pediatric Sports and Trauma: Leading Edge Surgical Techniques and Innovations held on June, 2018. (Lt to Rt) Eric Edmonds (class of 2008), Kevin Shea (class of 1998), Phil Wilson (class of 2001), and Jay Albright (class of 2004).



Dr. Yaszay presenting at SRS where he won both the Hibbs award and the best poster award.



Hank Chambers as Visiting Professor at San Antonio Military Medical Center seen here with Matt Schmitz (class of 2012).



Eric Edmonds was the keynote speaker at the Kaye Wilkins Fracture Symposium in Austin, he is seen here with Matt Ellington (class of 2016), Kaye Wilkins (1997 RCHSD Visiting Professor), and Chris Souder (class of 2013).



# Connections 2019

**BEST  
CHILDREN'S  
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**U.S. News** & WORLD REPORT

ORTHOPEDICS  
2019-20

*We are happy to announce that we have made the top 10 pediatric orthopedic departments again!*



*Thank you for another successful year!*