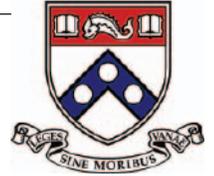




Administrative Chief Residents' Perspective

Mara Schenker, MD, Adam Griska, MD, and Chancellor Gray, MD



It seems like yesterday that Dr. Lackman welcomed us to Penn. “Residency...it will go by fast,” is what I recall him saying, as he distributed our white coats and cell phones.

I didn't believe him.

It seems like yesterday that I looked up to Karen Boselli, Jonas Matzon, and Eric Richetti, our administrative chief residents as interns, thinking how much they knew about orthopaedic surgery and what tremendous doctors they were.

I knew I had a lot to learn.

Five years later, I was the rounding chief resident at HUP on the first day of the new interns. One of our brand-new interns in his brand-new creased white coat dropped the entire bucket of dressings on the floor, and did not realize that the beeping pager belonged to him. I laughed and called him a “rookie.” (NB: he has since done a fantastic job). It was today that I took a junior through a subtrochanteric femur fracture. It went well. And it won't be that long until we're headed off to our fellowships. It won't be that long before we'll be in practice. Residency did fly by. Dr. Lackman didn't lie. Somehow, sometime, somewhere, we made that transition from “rookie” to chief resident.

In the last several years, we have seen an influx of new faculty, a new chairman, new residency directors. We have made mistakes, learned from our mistakes, and have become orthopaedic surgeons. Some of the most influential people along our path have been our administrative chief residents, including: Jonas Matzon, Karen Boselli, Eric Richetti, Nirav Patel, Stephan Pill, Derek Donegan, Andy Kuntz, Surena Namdari, John Scolaro, Eileen Crawford, and Jason Hsu. We are forever indebted to Drs. Levin, Israelite, Mehta, Ahn, as well as our faculty and resident mentors who have taught us orthopaedic surgery.

When we were asked to serve in the role of Administrative Chief Resident for 2013-14, we humbly accepted it as a way to give back to a system that had given us so much. Like our predecessors, we set goals for what we could accomplish in a short year for the good of the residency. This included an iPad reading curriculum, first by obtaining an iPad mini for each

resident with the support of the Department. After that, we formalized a reading curriculum, which includes 10-15 review or classic articles for each rotation. As a junior resident, we had no idea where to begin our reading. With the new iPad reading curriculum, we hope that our junior residents have a launching point for self-directed reading and learning. We hope that they carry this forward to create additional online educational resources. The second was a curriculum on “Leadership and Leaving the Nest.” One of the resounding gaps in our formal education was the ACGME competency on “Systems Based Practice.” This three-month curriculum held in the evenings during our Academic Night includes lecturers from our own Department, from Wharton business school, and from faculty from across the country on topics ranging from leadership to practice finance to quality improvement to work/life balance and contract negotiations. In addition, with the guidance and mentorship of our faculty, we organized the core curriculum and visiting professor Grand Rounds curriculum and invited a variety of speakers from around the world, including:

- *Ralston Lecture:* Dr. Kevin Black, Professor and C. McCollister Evarts Chairman, Penn State Hershey
- *OREF Lecture:* Dr. William Obremskey, Professor of Orthopaedics, Vanderbilt University
- *Leo Leung Lecture:* Dr. David Ruch, Chief, Orthopaedic Hand Service, Duke University
- *Stein Lecture:* Dr. Kevin Bozic, William R. Murray Professor and Vice Chair, University of California, San Francisco
- *Tronzo Lecture:* Professor Reinhold Ganz, Bern, Switzerland
- *Nicholson Lecture:* Dr. James Sanders, Professor of Orthopaedics, University of Rochester
- *Inaugural Turen Lecture:* Dr. Andrew Burgess, Professor and Vice Chairman, UT Houston Medical Center
- *AO Spine Lecture:* Dr. Howard An, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Rush Medical Center

Thank you to everyone at Penn for a great residency. We hope that we were able to give back a small percentage this year to all that you have given us.