



The 11th Annual Ernest J. Gentchos Lectureship



University of Pennsylvania
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds
May 26, 2011

Guest Lecturer: Leesa M. Galatz, MD
Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
Washington University, St. Louis, MO

Covered by: Sarah M. Yannascoli, MD



Dr. Leesa M. Galatz

This year, the University of Pennsylvania Department of Orthopaedic Surgery was proud to host Dr. Leesa M. Galatz, MD as the 11th annual Ernest Gentchos Lectureship on May 26, 2011. This annual dedication is made in honor of our very distinguished faculty member – Dr. Gentchos. Brought up in a small village in Northern Greece, Dr. Gentchos began his journey in medicine in St. Louis, Missouri at the St. Louis University School of Medicine where he

received his medical degree. From there he went on to serve in the medical battalion in the US Army Air Cavalry during the Vietnam War. Eventually he found a more permanent home in Philadelphia where he completed his residency training at the University of Pennsylvania, Graduate Hospital.

It wasn't long before Dr. Gentchos became a fixture of the Penn Orthopaedic faculty. Outside the orthopaedic classroom, his firm belief in the value of education drives him to provide several endowed scholarships to high school, college, and medical students. His contributions serve as a reminder that there is always something more we can be doing to learn and contribute to the betterment of those around us. Many of us know Dr. Gentchos's inquisitive and thoughtful look when he asks his favorite question, "What did you learn today?" These small daily pearls of medicine, orthopaedics, and life are invaluable. It is for this unwavering enthusiasm for learning, teaching, and serving the orthopaedic community that we, as the Penn Orthopaedic family, are happy to dedicate this lectureship to Dr. Ernest Gentchos.

Our invited speaker, Dr. Leesa Galatz travelled from Washington University, St. Louis in honor of Dr. Gentchos and in dedication to the values he upholds. No stranger to Penn

Orthopaedics, Dr. Galatz is held in very high regard by many of our faculty, who remember her as a Shoulder and Elbow fellow here at the University of Pennsylvania. Her medical career began at George Washington University where she continued on to complete her Orthopaedic residency. After her year in our department as a Shoulder and Elbow surgery fellow she joined the faculty of the Department of Orthopaedics at Washington University in St. Louis where she is known as a leader and cutting edge pioneer in her field. Her willingness to travel across the country and participate in this lectureship illustrates her embodiment of the principles shared by Dr. Gentchos. We were very fortunate and proud to host Dr. Galatz in her demonstration of the importance of education, superior patient care, and community service.

The lectureship began with a series of complicated and interesting cases presented by the residents. Discussions amongst Dr. Galatz, the faculty and residents regarding complicated elbow reconstruction, revision rotator cuff tears, and proximal humerus fractures in the young and elderly filled the first hour of her stay. These cases were presented in an effort to glean some insight into her expertise, which she openly shared and fluently cited important milestones in the literature. She went on to present a grand rounds on rotator cuff healing and repair, where she relayed complex basic science principles along with cutting edge discoveries and discussed how they contribute to the state of the art in rotator cuff repair. She emphasized the importance of basic science research as the foundation for our knowledge as clinicians and evidence based treatment. She reminded us of the many gaps in our knowledge and the consequent dilemmas the orthopaedic community and shoulder and elbow surgeons internationally still must face.

We are sincerely grateful for Dr. Galatz's visit to our institution and the acknowledgement it brings to our distinguished faculty member, Dr. Gentchos.