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# Letter from the Program Director

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With each year, I look forward to the publication of *The University of Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Journal*. The reason is that it gives me pause for reflection on the past and present academic year. As importantly, it acknowledges the continued growth and strength under the leadership of our Chairman, Dr. L. Scott Levin, MD.

For many of you that may be unaware, much more documentation is required by the ACGME. In addition to making sure that all residents receive the greatest depth and experience in all areas of orthopaedics, there is the requirement of documenting milestones of certain core procedures. Each resident is required, prior to graduation, to be deemed both academically and technically proficient in these chosen procedures. Core values of professionalism and ethics are also documented. This leads to an even more robust evaluation of residents providing them with feedback on their journey through residency.

If you think this is a lot of additional work, you are absolutely correct! Fortunately Drs. Samir Mehta, MD, and Jaimo Ahn, MD, PhD, have stepped up and have been named Associate and Assistant Program Director, respectively. For those of you who have been part of this program over the past decade, you know that these two educators have enormous energy, intelligence and passion. Their efforts along with the continued direction of Barbara Weinraub have let us navigate through this new litany of documentations.

As a result of the aforementioned program directors, Barbara Weinraub, Dr. Levin, along with each and every attending and resident, we have been granted, effective as of January 2014, full accreditation for the next ten years. This is the maximum term allowable. There were very few areas of concern, and we have already begun corrective action.

But as always, the strength of any program, in addition to its dedicated and stellar faculty is the residents themselves. Once again, last year's residents achieved the most prestigious fellowships in the country. It is obvious that the top fellowship programs of this country are well aware of the excellent

quality and training here at Penn. I am happy to report that last year's graduating residents are doing well in their current fellowship programs. Eileen Crawford, MD, is doing sports medicine at the University of Michigan. Andre (Nic) Gay, MD, is doing foot and ankle at Oakland Bone and Joint Specialists. Jason Hsu, MD, is training in shoulder and elbow at Washington University in St. Louis. Tae Won Kim, MD, is doing tumor at Memorial Sloan Kettering. Amun Makani, MD, is in the sports medicine program at Massachusetts General Hospital. Min Park, MD, is doing hand at Stanford. Amy Sewick, MD, is in sports medicine at UCLA. Roshan Shah, MD, JD, is doing his adult reconstruction fellowship at Rush in Chicago. Obviously the quality of the fellowship programs speaks to the advanced training that the residents receive here at the University of Pennsylvania. I expect many of these graduating residents to become leaders in their fields.

Additionally, the current group of residents has continued to push the academic frontiers of orthopaedics. Obviously I cannot detail each and every achievement, but during this past academic year there have been 73 peer-reviewed journal articles, 29 book chapters, 43 abstracts at national conferences, four OREF grants, as well as numerous national awards. This is a credit to the industriousness of our residents, the quality of our faculty, and the research engine which continues as strong as ever under the stewardship of Dr. Lou Soslowsky, PhD.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not give credit where much of the current credit is due. While it is obvious that we continue to matriculate the best and brightest applicants (again receiving approximately 700 applications for this upcoming year), special recognition goes to our Academic Chiefs, Drs. Mara Schenker, Adam Griska, and Chancellor Gray. All have done a stellar job. However special recognition, gratitude, etc., goes to Mara. I have been at Penn for a dozen years, and her continued enthusiasm and program development are unequalled. Again, I would like to thank each and every administrator, faculty member, resident, and support staff in the Department of Orthopaedics. Each has contributed to what is an outstanding program which is sought after by all applicants, and we continue to be leaders in our fields. I am excited about the upcoming academic year and look forward to reporting once again in the *UPOJ* next year.