Upcoming CME

Conservative Treatment of Childhood Scoliosis
with Dr. Michael Vitale
June 12, 2015
All Day Event
New York, NY
REGISTER HERE

Upcoming Events

Ira N. Wolfe Lecture on Global Soccer Medicine
with Dr. Bert Mandelbaum
May 14, 2015
7:00 am - 8:10 am
New York, NY
For more info, contact Tamika Lynch at 212-305-5974
or tl374@cumc.columbia.edu

Lindenauer Lecture on Mobility and Child Development
with Dr. Cole Galloway
May 20, 2015
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
New York, NY
RSVP HERE

Columbia Orthopedics' Graduation
June 19, 2015
Milstein Heart Hospital Auditorium
New York, NY
For more info, contact Tamika Lynch at 212-305-5974
or tl374@cumc.columbia.edu

NYOH Celebrates its 150 Year Anniversary
May 13-14, 2016
New York, NY

A Message from the Chairman,
William N. Levine

The AAOS meeting in Las Vegas was quite successful for NYOH/Columbia. Members of the department moderated and participated in 2 symposia, delivered 5 instructional course lectures, and gave 14 paper presentations and 8 poster presentations.

In the last newsletter, I indicated that we were close to signing some new faculty and I am thrilled to announce the successful recruitment of some fantastic new members of the Columbia family.

We are excited to welcome Drs. Larry Lenke, Dan Riew, and Ron Lehman from Washington University, St. Louis who will help build a transformational spine hospital at NewYork-Presbyterian/Allen Hospital and a multidisciplinary spine health initiative at Columbia. They will begin seeing patients July 1, 2015 and begin operating August 1, 2015. Dr. Lenke will serve as the new Director of Spinal Surgery and the Surgeon-in-Chief of the spine hospital. Dr. Riew will be the Chief of Cervical Spine Surgery and the new Fellowship Director of what will arguably be the best spine fellowship in the country on day one! Dr. Lehman will serve as the Director of Degenerative and Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery.

We are also excited to announce that Dr. Robert Steffner will be joining us from UC-Davis and begin August 1st, 2015. Dr. Steffner is an orthopedic oncologic surgeon who trained at the University of Chicago and will help Dr. Francis Lee in the care of adult and pediatric oncologic patients.

Residency graduation is June 19th and you’re all invited to join us to welcome Drs. Ryan Cassilly, Marc Dyrszka, JeanneFranzone, Borys Gvozdyev, Eric Makhni, and Eric Swart to the NYOH/Columbia Alumni family. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Steven Ludwig, Chief of Spine Surgery at University of Maryland, as our Visiting Professor.

Finally, please mark your calendars for the 150th Anniversary celebration (!) of the New York Orthopaedic Hospital on May 13-14, 2016. The Frank Stinchfield lectureship, Allen DeForest Smith lectureship, and the NYOH Distinguished Alumni lectureship are some of the many highlights that will make this 75th Biennial NYOH Alumni meeting one of the most memorable ever.

All the best,
Jon Ticker, MD, is Our New NYOH Alumni President

Dr. Jonathan B. Ticker has agreed to be our next NYOH Alumni President. We’re thrilled to have his valuable input as we gear up for the 150-year-anniversary celebration in May 2016 and prepare for other exciting alumni events.

“It is an honor for me to serve NYOH in this role for this momentous occasion,” said Dr. Ticker. “I look forward to the 75th Biennial Meeting, including the educational and social aspects, with anticipation of learning and seeing many fellow alumni. We’re still making history, and I would encourage all NYOH Alumni to be part of it.”

Three World-Class Spinal Surgeons Join NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia Orthopedics

Three leading spinal surgeons are joining NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, and Columbia Orthopedics effective July 1. Drs. Larry Lenke, Daniel Riew, and Ronald Lehman will establish a comprehensive spine hospital at NewYork-Presbyterian/Allen and treat patients at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital. In addition, they will serve on the faculty of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Read the full NYP press release.

Learn Why Drs. Lenke, Riew, and Lehman Chose Columbia Orthopedics

Lawrence Lenke, MD

“I elected to come to Columbia for the unique and transformative potential to create the top spinal surgery program in the country with two of my most respected colleagues, Drs. Riew and Lehman, joining Drs. Weidenbaum, Kim and Fischer. This type of overall devotion to comprehensive surgical and nonsurgical care of spine patients has never before been attempted in this country. It will become the envy of not only other New York City hospitals, but all other medical centers across the country.”

K. Daniel Riew, MD

“I don’t know of another institution in the entire country that can do what Columbia and NYP have committed to doing. Also, to simultaneously recruit us, Bill Levine proved that he had tremendous vision, the requisite executive skills and the backing of Columbia and NYP to make it happen. We have the leadership, resources, and faculty to be a top program in orthopedics.”

Ronald A. Lehman, Jr. MD

“There were many factors that went into my decision to join Columbia University, but it can be summarized by three main tenets 1.) Leadership 2.) People, and 3.) Vision. We will be able to deliver world class, comprehensive care in a partnership with all spine care providers in our system. This is unprecedented, and brings with it an incredible amount of excitement to realizing our goal.”

Visit the Alumni Community on for[MD]

Here’s what’s new:

* Check out photos from AAOS
* Stream video of Columbia’s Grand Round lectures

https://formd.com/

Columbia Orthopedics in the Spotlight

* Dr. William
Macaulay is now Director of Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Lawrence Hospital

* Dr. George J. Zambetti, Jr., sports medicine expert, joined Columbia Orthopedic on January 1, 2015

* Dr. Mark Weidenbaum featured in CBS News story about a surprising method to alleviate back pain

* Dr. Christopher Ahmad has been named a Deputy Editor for JAAOS, the most widely read orthopedics journal in the world

* Dr. T. Sean Lynch co-authors review article on findings from the Multicenter Orthopaedic Outcomes Network (MOON) ACL Study Group

* Dr. Roshan Shah discusses sports participation following joint replacement in an interview with Dr. Ahmad

* Dr. William B. Macaulay Jr. has been inducted into the European Hip Society

Alumni Spotlight: David L. Skaggs, MD

Every NYOH/Columbia newsletter showcases a featured alumnus. For this issue, our chairman, Dr. Levine, interviewed spine surgeon Dr. David Skaggs.

Dr. Skaggs is a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Southern California. He is also Chief of the Children's Orthopaedic Center and Director of the Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity Program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

Levine: In what year did you graduate?

Levine: Talk a bit about your experience with pediatric orthopedics, including your rising leadership. How did you get interested in Peds Ortho?

Skaggs: I remember the first time I saw an instrumented correction of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis I was hooked. That is what I wanted to do with my life. With my career path firmly in mind, I went to as many peds ortho clinics and surgeries as I could. I remember David Roye looking over an x-ray of a child with some type of bone dysplasia explaining the facts we had to know about this condition in order to pass the boards. That was scary; there seemed to be way too much to learn about too many conditions to be a good pediatric orthopaedic surgeon. I have never quite gotten over this fear (or my low OITE scores!), which continues to serve as motivation to keep me reading and studying all the time.

Being a leader in orthopaedics or any aspect of life can have many roles, and come from various motivations. Early in most surgeons' careers, I think the motivation is primarily ego - wanting to be at the top of the field and be recognized as the "best." Over time, the good leaders are motivated primarily by service, service to other surgeons, their patients, and everyone they can impact. I remember as a resident rotating through Springfield Shriners Hospital and wanting to be a Chief of Orthopedics so I could help create an environment in which everyone in the building was proud to come to work and felt the mission of caring for kids. I still feel that drive just as powerfully today and think many times each day what I can do to make the team and team members better.

Giving Back

“50 for 150”

To keep our educational and research missions strong, our goal is to raise $50 million by the 150th Anniversary of NYOH in 2016!

 Funds raised will expand the musculoskeletal research program; create named professorships and fellowships in each subspecialty; create a sports medicine performance center, and support the new spine hospital.

Your generosity will help advance our mission to provide the highest-quality patient care, conduct cutting-edge research, and train the next generation of leading orthopedic surgeons. To get involved or make a donation, click here.

Levine: What are your favorite NYOH/Columbia memories?

Kira (premed), Clay, David, his wife Val, and Jaime in London for Val's birthday
Skaggs: Being at an NYOH party on the roof of Bard Hall listening to Howard Kiernan’s stories, such as a resident throwing a keg off the roof through a police car windshield.

Levine: What message would you like to convey to the current residents at NYOH/Columbia?

Skaggs: One of my favorite passages in the Upanishads (ancient spiritual Hindu text) is “Brahman cannot be realized by those subject to the pride of name and fame.” When caring for patients, don’t hide behind the role of being a doctor, but let them feel you are a human who cares for them. It will be more fun and effective.

Teaching and research are best done when genuinely motivated by a desire to pass on knowledge to surgeons and benefit patients. Beware of the temptation to use academics as a platform to support your ego and remind yourself and others of your superior intelligence. Keep it light and simple. The best teaching comes from a place of love.

Would you like to nominate someone to feature in our next issue? Tell us! Contact Kathryn Gerlach at 212-305-5974 or kg2594@columbia.edu