Continuing Education and Grand Rounds

UNMC orthopaedic graduates are welcome to participate in any of the following continuing education seminars and Grand Rounds presented by department faculty, current residents, and guest speakers. Here is the tentative schedule. Please call the department (402-559-4533) in advance to confirm the schedule:

October
13 Nonunions (Drs. Mormino and Humphrey)
20 Management of acetabular defects in THA (Drs. Sekundiak and Reed)
27 Osteosarcoma (Drs. Neff and Buck)

November
3 Periprosthetic fractures (Drs. Otterberg and Hansen)
10 Ankle fractures—pending (Drs. McMullen and Lauder)
17 Calcaneus malunions (Drs. Clare and Humphrey)
24 Distal biceps injuries (Drs. Gianagaria and Rosipal)

December
1 Achilles tendon repair and reconstruction (Drs. Inda and Lauder)
8 TKA (Dr. Tarkin)
15 THA for pediatric hip diseases (Dr. Hasley)
22 Posterior tibial tendon dysfunction (Dr. Reed)

January
5 Morbidity & Mortality (Drs. Hansen, Humphrey, Reed)
12 Shoulder replacement for arthritis (Drs. Feifergerg and Davis)
19 Pre-operative planning for THA (Drs. Garvin and Hasley)
26 Rheumatoid hand (Drs. Tiederman and Prince)

February
2 Lumbar disc replacement (Dr. Hansen)
9 Hindfoot fusions (Drs. Clare and Lauder)
16 Throwing injuries of the shoulder (Dr. Humphrey)
23 Distal femur fractures (Dr. Prince)

March
1 Metatarsal and phalangeal fractures—pending (Drs. Murphy and Tarkin)
8 Acetabular fractures (Drs. Mormino and Lauder)
15 Kienbock’s disease (Dr. Lauder)

April
5 Morbidity & Mortality (Drs. Hasley, Lauder, and Davis)
12 Osteoporosis (Drs. Recker and Davis)
19 Combined ligament injuries about the knee (Drs. Brown and Prince)
26 Hip fractures (Dr. Tarkin)

May
3 Proximal humerus fractures (Dr. Humphrey)
10 Soft tissue sarcomas (Dr. Prince)
17 Non-operative management of low back pain (Drs. Devney and Hansen)
31 Implant Selection in TKA (Dr. Sekundiak)

June
5 Morbidity & Mortality (Drs. Hansen, Lauder, and Davis)

July
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A Message From The Chair

This summer and fall the department said some hellos, goodbyes, and thank yous. We said goodbye to our graduating residents who moved on to fellowships at some of the country’s top institutions, and we welcomed three new residents who began their training in July. We welcomed Dr. Cheng-Hsin Ma, a new research associate, and saw several of our research staff move our existing lab to new research laboratories in the Scott Technology Center. In addition, we welcomed Dr. Charles F. Burt to our faculty at the end of August. Some of you may know Dr. Burt, who will be our newest instructor. You will learn more about him in the spring issue of Breaking News.

We joined with the rest of the Omaha medical community in saying goodbye to Dr. L. Thomas Hood who passed away in August. Dr. Hood was a former chair of the department and founder of the department’s residency training program.

The fall issue of “Breaking News” is also a time to say thank you. Thanks to our volunteer faculty who play a key role in our residency program. And we want to say a big thank you to alumni and friends who provide financial support to the department. Next year, we will publish an honor roll of the individuals and organizations who contribute financially to our department. Private support is vital to the department’s momentum for excellence.

This issue features many stories about activities that are supported by private gifts: our residents presenting research results at the AAOS meeting, bringing guest speakers to Omaha to share their expertise and experience with residents and faculty, providing seed money for research projects, purchasing equipment to help us develop innovative surgical techniques, and even funding the guest speaker and dinner for our residents’ graduation weekend.

So we say “thank you” to the people who contributed to our department in so many ways: “hello” to new residents, new faculty, and new staff members; “farewell” to old friends who have given so much to our profession.

Karin L. Barvin
Dr. Kevin Garvin

Cheng-Hsin Ma Joins Department’s Research Team

Research Associate Cheng-Hsin Ma, Ph.D., has performed an orthopedic implant, but he can tell you all about the molecular characteristics and physical properties of the materials that coat orthopedic implants.

Although he has lived in the Midwest for several years, Dr. Ma had not been to Nebraska until he interviewed with Dr. Fereydoon Namavar, professor and director of Nano-Biotechnology, earlier this year. Dr. Ma lived in Illinois, while completing a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Born and raised in Taiwan, where his parents still live, Cheng-Hsin Ma earned a B.S. degree in nuclear engineering and an M.S. degree in nuclear engineering and engineering physics from National Tsing Hua University.

“My master’s degree advisor attended UIUC, so he urged me to go there for my Ph.D.,” says Dr. Ma. “I considered Stanford University, especially because my brother lives in San Jose. I also considered other universities, which have more city lives, such as MIT and Northwestern, but the University of Illinois offered me the best scholarship.”

“It was a good place to study, though, because there weren’t many distractions,” he laughs. Although he’s settling into an apartment near the Scott Technology Center, Dr. Ma already likes Omaha. “I like everything,” he says. “football, baseball, Broadway plays, art, jazz at the Joslyn Art Museum, and the Old Market.” He likes to fish and says he’s waiting for cooler weather so he can go fishing in Nebraska.

While in Illinois, Dr. Ma was a teaching assistant in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. He also designed experiments, built and maintained an ion-beam-assisted deposition system, and operated various surface analysis metal strength-testing machines. Dr. Namavar saw Dr. Ma’s presentations at the 2002 International Conference on Metallurgical Coating Thin Films. Earlier this year, Dr. Namavar invited Dr. Ma to interview for a position with the department’s Nano-Biotechnology Laboratory, now housed at the Scott Technology Center. Dr. Ma and Dr. Namavar will be working with the new ion-beam-assisted deposition (IBAD) machine. Watch future issues of Breaking News for information on this amazing piece of equipment.

Dr. Ma is excited about the opportunities here and the medical applications for their biomaterials research. He is happy to be the newest member of the department’s biomaterials research team.

Faculty News

Congratulations to Dr. & Mrs. Edward Fehringer on the recent birth of their daughter Ellie Caroline Fehringer, born on September 15th, 2003. Dr. Fehringer graduated from the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program in 2000, and is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

On Your (Book)mark!

New names and new logos bring changes in Web sites. We continue to update the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Web site, including information about our residency training programs, faculty profiles, research projects, patient information, and background about orthopaedic diagnosis and treatment. The site links to UNMC publications, the Eppley Cancer Center, and other UNMC colleges and departments. Back issues of “Breaking News” are also archived on the site. Here are some sites you might want to bookmark:

- Department of Orthopaedic Surgery (www.unmc.edu/orthosurgery)
- University of Nebraska Medical Center (www.unmc.edu)
- The Nebraska Medical Center (hospital) (www.nebraskamed.com)

What’s News with You?

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Hospital Unveils New Name and Logo

This summer the Nebraska Health System adopted a new name and logo. “The Nebraska Medical Center” replaces the former name “the Nebraska Health System,” which research showed was confusing for patients. Glenn Fosdick, president and CEO of The Nebraska Medical Center says the name better reflects the institution’s image as a regional and national medical center. Chancellor Harold Maurer, M.D., says the new name capitalizes on UNMC’s reputation as a world-class academic health sciences center. Also this summer, The Nebraska Medical Center was ranked among the country’s best hospitals in U.S. News & World Report and in the top 40 for cancer care.

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On the Move

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery is on the move! In September, several faculty and staff from the department’s Bioinformatics Laboratory and the Nano-Biotechnology Laboratory moved their research equipment into the Scott Technology Center.

The spring 2003 issue of “Breaking New Ground” told a story about the center, which is designed to help technology companies develop through partnerships with the University of Nebraska and other businesses.

The Scott Center offers departmental researchers customized space for developing and testing innovative joint replacement implants and materials.

Dr. Hans Haider and Foraydoo Namavar are leading the research activities in the Scott Technology Center. Research Associates Dr. Cheng-Hsin Ma, Andrés Barbera, and Shashank Mupparapu, technical staff members Richard Cosson and Benjamin O’Brien, and student assistant Dana Hess have also moved into laboratory space in the Scott Technology Center this fall.

Surveying New Territory

Clinical Research Coordinator Connie Feschuk: Clinical Research Coordinator Connie Feschuk: Surveying New Territory

This summer, Assistant Professor Todd Sekundak, M.D. performed one of the first minimally invasive hip surgeries (MIS) at The Nebraska Medical Center. The breakthrough has sparked local media interest, but the technique is still quite new and Dr. Sekundak cautions that it may not be right for every patient. Still, he remains optimistic about the new procedure.

“The new technique uses smaller incisions and causes less trauma to the body,” explains Dr. Sekundak. “The result is that most patients will be back on their feet much sooner and experience less post-surgical pain.” In addition, MIS can shorten a patient’s hospital stay by one or two days.

The usual opening for hip replacement is about 8 inches long, but with MIS, there are two % inch incisions, one for the stem and one for the cup. “We put the cup in through the front incision. The stem is placed through the buttock and down into the thigh,” says Dr. Sekundak. Measurements taken prior to surgery are crucial to the success of the procedure. “We try not to move the implant around once it is in the body.”

More movement of the implant causes more damage, which causes the patient more pain and a longer recovery—even with this minimally invasive technique. It is believed that MIS will lessen the time for catch up and rehabilitation, compared to traditional knee and hip replacement surgeries.

Dr. Sekundak says other surgeons in the department are using the minimally invasive techniques. So far, department faculty have performed about 50 surgeries. “Our next step is to share what we have learned with other surgeons,” he says. This will be possible with our learning and research facility now taking shape at the Scott Technology Center. The center will play a defining role in teaching new clinical techniques and evaluating their effectiveness.

Minimally Invasive Hip and Knee Surgery Shows Promise

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery in San Francisco. The gathering is a great chance to renew friendships with orthopaedic graduates from across the country. Save the date! The department will send invitations later this year.

Correction: The spring issue of “Breaking New Ground” ran several photos from the 2003 AAOS meeting and reception. We would like to apologize for misspelling Dr. Brian Hasley’s name in a photo caption.

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2004 AAOS Meeting Set for San Francisco

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons will meet March 10-14, 2004, in the city by the bay. Dr. Kevin Garvin, the new president of the Academy, is confident that Nebraska will again have a strong presence at the meeting. Both at the research presentations and at the alumni reception on March 12.

Several current residents and faculty are planning to share the results of some interesting research projects at the 2004 meeting. Also, the Nebraska/Creighton Orthopaedic alumni reception always draws a crowd of enthusiastic alumni and friends. The reception will be Friday, March 12, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Marines Memorial Club, 609 Sutter Street in San Francisco. The gathering is a great chance to renew friendships with orthopaedic graduates from across the country. Save the date! The department will send invitations later this year.

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Welcome to our New Residents—Class of 2008

These new residents are embarking on their orthopaedic residency education in this nation at UMMC a Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Rehabilitation, and by now they have settled into the city and into a routine program. We hope you have an opportunity to meet and get acquainted with these outstanding new residents.

Curtis W. Hartmann was born in Neenah, Wisconsin, a farming community in the central part of the state. He didn’t stay far away when he went to college and medical school, preferring to remain within the state. He did not travel far when he went to orthopaedic residency programs at a local hospital and was trained in an orthopaedic technique. Randy assisted 10 community orthopaedic surgeons and saw a variety of procedures and cases.

During medical school, Curtis worked at a pediatric clinic that provided orthopaedic care to disabled children from Mexico. Randy became the clinic’s student coordinator, organizing medical student involvement at the clinic. He also did some research on biotechnology, participating in two research projects related to total knee replacement.

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Private Contributions Help Build the Department’s Momentum

Gifts from orthopaedic alumni and friends, faculty members, foundations, and corporations support the department’s mission and provide vital resources for resident education, research projects, equipment purchases, and much more.

“With the state’s severe budget cuts to the university, this has been a tough year for our department and Nebraska’s entire medical center,” says Dr. Kevin Garvin. “Private contributions from our alumni and friends are especially important and appreciated this year. Whether they are major endowments given by the people listed on our Wall of Honor, or smaller contributions from recent graduates to our annual development fund, private contributions help build the department’s momentum of excellence. Some people choose to support the department’s annual fund (a department-wide fund) that is used primarily for resident replacements, activities, such as supporting residents who present research results at national meetings, bringing renowned guest speakers to campus, or even helping make resident graduation a true celebration. Other people choose to direct their gifts to specific funds for scholarships, research, or equipment, for example. Christina Hixon of the Lied Foundation created an endowment, and the annual earnings from this endowment support a variety of orthopaedic research projects. Some of the Lied endowment is used as ‘seed’ money to support promising research activities, some of which may lead to larger external grants. Not long after he underwent knee surgery in 1996, Charles Durham, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Durham Resources, made a generous contribution to the department. According to Dr. Garvin, those funds support people and equipment related to research in nanotechnology and joint replacement design.

The late Dr. L. Thomas Hood and his wife, Marjorie, have set a high standard for generosity. Over the years, they have supported orthopaedic education, faculty, and patient care. “We are grateful for each and every expression of support,” says Dr. Garvin. “Private gifts make a day-to-day difference in the educational opportunities we provide our residents, the research breakthroughs in our labs, and the patient care in our clinics.”

Welcome Dr. Burt

In the spring issue of Breaking News, you will meet Dr. Charles F. Burt, a new clinical instructor in the department. Many of you may know Dr. Burt, a 1993 UNMC graduate who completed his orthopaedic residency in 1998. Welcome Dr. Burt and Marjorie Hood, and Dr. Richard A. Pettie. Another metal plaque of the department’s new logo (the large red “N” tied to a tree) embodies a brief summary of the history of Nebraska’s orthopaedic program.

The latest addition to the department’s Wall of Honor will be a plaque for Wayne and Eileen Ryan of Omaha. The Ryans will be featured in the spring issue of Breaking News.” Wayne Ryan founded Streck Laboratories.

Dr. Kevin Garvin says the recognition plaques demonstrate the close ties between generous private support and the history of excellence at Nebraska’s Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation. And, he notes, there is plenty of room on the wall to recognize future donors.

Honor Roll of 2003 Contributors to be Published Next Year

Next year, for the first time, the department will publish an honor roll of contributors to the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. This list will publicly honor the individuals and organizations who make contributions to the department during the 2003 calendar year. The honor roll of 2003 contributors, which will be published in the fall issue of Breaking News, is a small way of acknowledging the generosity of those who financially support the department’s mission of excellence in teaching, research, patient care, and service.