Nebraskans at the AAOS

Nearly 50 Nebraska orthopaedic alumni and their guests traveled to San Diego, CA, which touts itself as “America’s finest city”, to attend this year’s Nebraska alumni banquet held February 16th in conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) annual meeting February 14-18. Alumni relaxed and did some catching up during the banquet, which was held in the Hilton Gaslamp Hotel located in the heart of the historic Gaslamp Quarter.

During this year’s AAOS meeting, faculty and residents had three poster presentations, gave three instructional course lectures, and served as a moderator in a paper session (see full list below).

Nellans, K; Garvin, KL; Iorio, R; Healy, WL; Yoon, RS; Geller, J; Rosenwasser, MP; Macaulay, W. Poster Presentation: Total Hip Arthroplasty Less Painful at 12 Months in the Treatment of Displaced Femoral Neck Fractures.

Rathjen, KE; Georgopoulos, G; Murphy-Zane, MS; Blasier, DR, Scherl, SA. Poster Presentation: Injury Prevention in Children.

Hasley, BP; Sucato, DJ; Podeszwa, DA. Poster Presentation: Reliability of Measuring Anterior and Lateral Coverage of the Acetabulum in the Skeletally Immature.

Garvin, KL; Paprosky, WG; Trousdale, RT, Lieberman, JR. Instructional Course: How to Do a Revision Total Hip Arthroplasty. Moderator: Lieberman, JR.

Bozic, KJ; Garvin, KL; Pagnano, MW, Lewallen, DG. Instructional Course: Complications after Total Knee Arthroplasty: Prevention and Management. Moderator: Lewallen, DG.

The New Face of Orthopaedic Oncology at UNMC

No one would argue that he has some big shoes to fill, but Dr. Sean McGarry has not missed a step since he joined the department in August of 2006.

While still finishing up his oncology fellowship at the University of Florida-Shands Hospital, Dr. McGarry answered the call when the department needed someone to assist in the care of patients after the unfortunate death of Dr. James Neff in July of 2005. He began traveling to Omaha monthly in November of 2005 to hold oncology clinics, and in August of the following year became a full-time faculty member in the department, specializing in orthopaedic oncology with a focus on limb salvage.

“Dr. McGarry provided critical continuity of care for the department’s oncology patients,” said Department Administrator, David Staiert.

In addition to his growing clinical practice, Dr. McGarry plans to embark on a very ambitious outcomes research project. His goal is to create a database that will include the surgical outcomes of not only his own patients, but also many of the patients from Dr. Neff’s years in practice. It will be a daunting task, but in the end will provide a way to track which treatments have been most successful over the years.

Recently, Dr. McGarry received $7,000 from the Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation (MTF) for his participation as a member of the MTF Medical Board of Trustees in 2006-2007, which he has earmarked to fund this project. Dr. McGarry was nominated to be a member of the MTF’s Medical Board of Trustees by Dr. William Enneking, shortly after the passing of Dr. Neff who also held a position on the board.

Dr. Enneking, who was chair of the MTF at the time, had been a teacher to Dr. Neff thirty years prior and over the years had become his mentor, colleague and friend. Upon learning that Dr. McGarry would be stepping into the orthopaedic oncology position at UNMC’s Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Dr. Enneking nominated him to also fill the position on the MTF’s Medical Board of Trustees.

Dr. McGarry is also a member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Bone Cancer Panel. The NCCN is a not-for-profit alliance of centers that develops practice guidelines to help in making informed treatment decisions.

Currently, Dr. McGarry holds oncology clinic each Monday (all day) and Thursday (a.m.) in the Lied Center, and orthopaedic clinic each Thursday afternoon on the 2nd floor of the Durham Outpatient Center. Should you wish to learn more about Dr. McGarry, refer a patient to his clinic, or confer with him regarding a patient’s care, you may reach his nurse, Kerby, at 402-559-5611.
Neff Legacy Continues to Proliferate

A Message From the Chair

Our spring issue always brings news of change within the department. Chief residents are gearing up for graduation and the start of their fellowship or practice opportunities. Our new interns are excited to start learning the ropes so they can dive into their residency experience. In February faculty and residents took leave of the cold weather to join several alumni in sunny San Diego for the AAOS meeting and alumni banquet. It is always nice to bring together the past, present and future of the department to celebrate our rich history, as well as our promising future.

A big congratulations goes out to Dr. Edward Fehringer for being one of the first recipients of the annual Excellence in Clinical Practice Award (see page 7). Since joining our team in 2003, he has become an invaluable asset to this department as a faculty member, clinician, educator and researcher.

The Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation recently established the annual J. R. Neff Research Award in honor of the late Dr. James Neff. Read below to find out more about this award and how Dr. Neff’s legacy continues to remain strong.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the June 22-23 graduation ceremonies. This year our guest speaker is Dr. Roy Sanders of the Florida Orthopaedic Institute. You can read more about Dr. Sanders and the itinerary for this year’s events on page 4. We hope to see you there!

Dr. Kevin L. Garvin

MTF Establishes Annual J. R. Neff Award

In January of this year the department received notification that the late Dr. James R. Neff is being honored by the Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation (MTF) with the establishment of the annual J. R. Neff Research Award. Each year, the highest ranked science proposal submitted to the MTF will receive the J. R. Neff peer reviewed grant in the amount of $125,000.

A press release by the MTF regarding the newly established award in honor of Dr. Neff stated, “The Foundation wishes to recognize his leadership, educational demeanor, and his accomplished past by naming the highest ranked science proposal by peer review the J. R. Neff Grant.” The MTF is the world’s largest tissue bank. It’s internationally recognized Board of Directors and Medical Board of Trustees primary intent is to further orthopaedic research and education through its granting program.

Dr. Neff was president of MTF’s Medical Board of Trustees and also a member of the Board of Directors. Regarding Dr. Neff the MTF wrote, “[he] was a MTF Board activist who strongly supported orthopaedic research and education.” Dr. Neff was chairman of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation from 1991-2000.

New Patent Issued for Neff Invention

The Dynamic Compression Device and Driving Tool was one of several inventions Dr. James Neff conceived during his lifetime. Although he was not here to see it come to fruition, in February of this year the dynamic compression device and driving tool was officially patented by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Envision a specialized screw used to fasten portions of a fractured bone together, tightly securing them in place while allowing the bone to heal. Although there are several types of these devices, the screw Dr. Neff developed is designed to alleviate a common issue that can arise with some other screws.

For instance, one of the techniques for fixing and stabilizing fractures is termed interfragmentary compression. In this technique, the two fracture fragments are aligned perfectly and a screw is placed perpendicular to the fracture fragment. When the screw head engages into the outer surface of the bone, screw threads on the other side of the fracture pull the fracture together with continued tightening of the screw. This is called rigid fixation. As the bone heals, 1-2 millimeters of bone is resorbed at the fracture interface, theoretically loosening the rigid fixation.

“The dynamic compression device continuously imparts a force that pulls the bone together even as bone is resorbed to prevent loosening as the bone heals,” explained Dr. Sean McGarry, who specializes in Orthopaedic Oncology in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at UNMC.

This device is not the only patent held by Dr. Neff. Over twenty-five years ago Dr. Neff also developed and patented the “Neff Nail”, a device still widely used today as a knee fusion device for failed knee surgeries.
Graduation Celebration Planned for June 22-23

Graduation is always a special time of year for the department, as alumni and friends gather to celebrate the achievements of the graduating residents. This year the graduating residents are: Drs. David Buck, Beau Konigsberg, Scott Swanson and Kimberly Turman. Dr. Roy W. Sanders of the Florida Orthopaedic Institute will be the featured speaker. Here is a tentative schedule:

Friday, June 22, 2007:
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Resident Presentations:
Durham Research Center
Room 1004N
UNMC Campus

12:15 p.m.
Golf:
The Players Club
12101 Deer Creek Drive
Omaha, NE

Saturday, June 23, 2007:
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Ankle and Hindfoot Fractures,
Salvage and Post-traumatic
Reconstruction Symposium:
Durham Research Center
Room 1004N
UNMC Campus

6:00 p.m.
Banquet:
Joslyn Art Museum
Storz Fountain Court
2200 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE

Congratulations to the Upcoming Graduates of 2007

Please join us in congratulating the upcoming graduates of 2007. Listed below are their names and upcoming fellowship and practice opportunities.

- **David C. Buck, M.D.**: Practice: Heartland Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine; Hospital: Fremont Area Medical Center, Fremont, NE
- **Beau S. Konigsberg, M.D.**: Fellowship: Rush University Medical Center/Central DuPage Adult Joint Reconstruction Fellowship, Chicago, IL
- **Scott A. Swanson, M.D.**: Fellowship: Florida Orthopaedic Institute, Foot and Ankle Surgery/Lower Extremity Reconstruction, Tampa, FL
- **Kimberly A. Turman, M.D.**: Fellowship: University of Virginia Health System, Sports Medicine Fellowship, Charlottesville, VA
Employee Honors and Awards

Silver U Awards
The Chancellor’s Silver U Award is a UNMC program that “recognizes strong consistent performers, whose daily contributions or special achievements help meet UNMC’s mission.”

Silver U, October 2006
Connie Feschuk, MSHS, Clinical Research Coordinator

Over the last four years the department has blossomed in many ways, including a steep increase in the number of active departmental research activities, largely due to the outstanding efforts of Clinical Research Coordinator, Connie Feschuk. It was for her dedication to the department, and tireless efforts to help advance and oversee the department’s research activities, that Connie was awarded the Silver U Award in October of 2006.

Coordinating the research efforts of an entire department is not an easy task. Connie works simultaneously with several faculty members and residents on multiple projects. Since she joined the department in 2002, the number of outcomes research projects the department is involved in has dramatically increased. The large amount of information generated by these projects requires a database service capable of handling an enormous amount of information and generating sophisticated reports that display the information in a productive format. Because our current system was not up to the task, Connie researched options and located a database services provider that was able to accommodate our needs. In order to customize this system to projects specific to the department, Connie was also responsible for designing the necessary data fields and communicating this information to the database services provider.

In addition to these duties, Connie is a tremendous asset to the residents, assisting them with all of their research opportunities. She developed the current policies and procedures residents must follow when conducting research, and acts as a guiding force to make sure all regulations are followed, ensuring valid research results. Connie has also assumed other duties, including writing, editing and submitting most grant applications, IRB applications, and working with the department administrator to ensure budgets and applications conform to all University guidelines. In her spare time she researches potential studies that may apply to our program, benefiting not only our faculty and residents, but improving our patient care mission as well.

When the department signed a 5-year contract to act as a surgical training site for knee and hip procedures, Connie immediately became a key coordinator for this project. Her responsibilities range from scheduling a surgical suite for the training and arranging for cadavers from the Anatomical Board, to scheduling meals for up to 40 surgeons, vendors and staff who participate. Because Connie and her staff’s extreme dedication to making this a successful project, the response from the orthopaedic community to hold additional training sessions has been very positive.

Although Connie now resides in Omaha, she is originally from Canada. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Connie earned a nursing diploma, and a bachelor’s degree in English and economics from the University of Manitoba. She has three grown children and a granddaughter still residing in Canada, who she visits often. Recently, she completed her Masters of Science in Health Science (MSHS), enhancing her ability to manage all facets of the department’s research activities.

Silver U, February 2007
Osvaldo ‘Andres’ Barrera, MSc, Research Associate

At the orthopaedic research labs in the Scott Technology Center, innovative research is being done every day that holds great promise for the future of orthopaedic surgery. And every day, Andres Barrera is right at the heart of the matter.

While designing, building and testing the next generation of knee simulators, or developing software for three dimensional graphics might sound like space-aged technology to some, for Andres it is all in a day’s work.

Andres joined the orthopaedic department as a graduate assistant in 2001 and has since earned his Masters of Computer Science degree. Today he is a research associate in the department and highly regarded by his superiors and coworkers alike.

“Mr. Barrera has made a significant contribution to our young, but growing laboratory,” said Dr. Hani Haider, director of the Biomechanics Laboratory. “He has shown clarity of thought, impressive initiative when needed, good abilities as a team worker, and a generally friendly and pleasant character.”

Although Andres is involved in several ongoing projects, the main theme of his research has been the co-invention and creation of a prototype for a novel navigation system for arthroplasty in which the conventional mechanical alignment instruments were replaced with virtual reality-
Faculty Presentations, Seminars, and Publications

Department faculty members present many lectures, seminars and courses locally, regionally and nationally. They also serve in leadership positions and offices for local, state, national and international organizations. Here are some of our faculty and staff’s presentations and publications, awards and achievements, offices held, and other professional activities from November 2006 – May 2007.

Publications:

Book Chapters and Reviews:

Awards & Achievements:
Congratulations to Drs. Michael Shevlin, Gustavo Cordero, Kurt Bormann and Ryan Arnold - recipients of the Synthes Educational Grant Awards to attend the Principles of Fracture Management Course for Residents in Montreal, Quebec, August 16-19, 2007.
Kudos to Drs. Kevin Garvin and Fereydoon Namavar who were recognized for Special Achievement at this year’s annual Faculty Honors Convocation held March 27, 2007. The Faculty Honors Convocation is designed to recognize significant academic achievements in teaching, service, or research. Also recognized at the convocation, Dr. Edward Fehringer received the first annual Excellence in Clinical Practice award (see Honorable Mention on page 7).

In January of 2007, Dr. N. Åke Nystöm was recognized for his 5 year anniversary with The Nebraska Medical Center.

In December of 2006, J.D. Power and Associates designated The Nebraska Medical Center (TNMC) as a Distinguished Hospital for Service Excellence for the second consecutive year. TNMC joins a select group of hospitals nationwide that have demonstrated the ability to consistently deliver “An Outstanding Patient Experience” for inpatient services.

Dr. Edward Fehringer had the honor of attending the National Institute on Aging (NIA)’s Grant Writing Technical Assistance Workshop in Dallas, TX, based upon a proposal submitted on rotator cuff disease in those 65 and older. November 16-17, 2006.

Offices Held:
Dr. Kevin Garvin is a member of the University of South Dakota Foundation, Board of Trustees for 2006-2007. He is also a member of the Omaha Sports Commission 2007-present.
Dr. Susan Scherl was appointed a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Workforce Project Team in January 2007.
Special congratulations to Dr. Kevin Garvin who was elected to membership in the Knee Society in 2007 (see Honorable Mention on page 7).

In April 2006, Dr. Sean McGarry was appointed as a member of the Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation (MTP)’s Medical Board of Trustees. In May 2006, he also became a member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Bone Cancer Panel.

Recent Grants Received:

(Continued on page 6)
Conference Presentations, Seminars and Publications
(Continued from page 5)

International and National:


Garvin, K.: Young Adults with Hip Disease at Risk for Premature Arthritis. Rheumatology Fellows Grand Rounds, UNMC, Omaha, NE, December 8, 2006.


Regional and Local:


Excellence in Clinical Practice Award

In March of this year, Dr. Edward Fehringer received the 1st annual College of Medicine Dean’s Excellence in Clinical Practice Award. The recipient is awarded $25,000 and honored at the annual faculty honors convocation. This distinction was created to honor outstanding clinical faculty members who are dedicated to the education and training of medical students, provide compassionate and quality care to patients, and further advances in scientific knowledge through research.

“As the only fellowship-trained orthopaedic surgeon specializing in shoulder disease in the region, Dr. Fehringer has excelled and quickly developed a busy practice,” said Dr. Kevin Garvin. “Orthopaedic surgeons throughout the region commonly refer their most complex cases to Dr. Fehringer, which he always handles with aplomb. He has also completed outstanding research entitled ‘Full Thickness Rotator Cuff Tear Prevalence and Correlation with Shoulder Function in Patients 65 Years and Older.’”

Dr. Fehringer joined the department in 2003. Although he has a very busy clinical practice, he has also maintained a research focus on shoulder diseases, publishing 15 peer-reviewed manuscripts (11 as lead or second author), as well as securing peer-reviewed funding in the amount of $200,000 from the American Geriatric Society in 2004 for the aforementioned project on rotator cuff tears. The National Institute on Aging invited him to a grant-writing workshop in November of 2006 as a result of his work on this project.

Congratulations Dr. Fehringer and keep up the great work!

Knee Society

Special congratulations to Dr. Kevin Garvin, chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, who was elected to membership in the Knee Society in 2007. Membership in this elect group of surgeons is by invitation only, and candidates must be voted in by existing members.

One requirement for eligibility states that candidates must be accomplished orthopaedic surgeons (or research scientists) who have demonstrated interest in the advancement of orthopaedic surgical knowledge of the knee joint in health and/or arthritic disorders of the knee through substantiated accomplishments such as special studies, writings, lectures, etc.

Dr. Garvin is the only orthopaedic surgeon in Nebraska who is now an active member of both the Knee Society and the Hip Society.

Honorable Mention

Left to right: David O’Dell, M.D., Edward Fehringer, M.D., and John Golan, M.D., Ph.D., at the AOA/Faculty Honors Convocation, March 2007.

Left to right: Drs. Matthew Mormino, Kevin Garvin, Kimberly Turman and Curtis Hartman enjoy a beautiful oceanside evening during the MAOA annual meeting banquet.

Left to right: UNMC volunteer faculty members, Dr. Timothy Fitzgibbons and Erik Otterberg (1999 alumnus).

Mid-America Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting

In April, Drs. Matthew Mormino, Kevin Garvin, Kimberly Turman and Curtis Hartman traveled to Boca Raton, Florida for the Mid-America Orthopaedic Association’s (MAOA) annual meeting. Dr. Kevin Garvin gave an instructional course lecture at the meeting, and residents Kimberly Turman and Curtis Hartman both gave podium presentations. The MAOA meeting was held April 12-15, 2007 at the Boca Raton Resort and Club in Boca Raton, FL. See a full list of presenters below.


Garvin, K.: Total Joint Arthroplasty Infection. Instructional Course Lecture II: Complications Following Total Joint Replacement.

For a full list of recent presentations and publications by our faculty, residents and staff, see “Faculty Presentations, Seminars and Publications” on pages 5 & 6.


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For a full list of recent presentations and publications by our faculty, residents and staff, see “Faculty Presentations, Seminars and Publications” on pages 5 & 6.
Once again the excitement of Match Day has passed and the mystery of who will be joining the department as new interns in July has been revealed! Join us in welcoming the Class of 2012.

Nicholas S. Aberle, II
University of North Dakota School of Medicine

Lucas J. Burton
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Ryan W. Hess
Medical College of Wisconsin

Welcome to the Class of 2012
Visiting Speakers Expand Resident Education

Providing a well-rounded educational experience for our residents means bringing in visiting speakers who can share their expertise on a variety of topics. Annual contributions to the department’s Development Fund allow us to continue to bring guest speakers who offer new and innovative ideas in surgical techniques, research topics, and patient care. Below is a list of visiting speakers that presented in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery from November 2006 to April 2007.

### November 2006
14 Mr. Lew Bennett
Abbott Spine
Austin, TX
“Building a Successful Medical Practice”

16 Aaron Rosenberg, MD, FACS
Rush Medical College
Chicago, IL
“Diagnosing and Managing Infection in Total Joint Arthroplasty”

17 Aaron Rosenberg, MD, FACS
Rush Medical College
Chicago, IL
“Knee Arthroplasty Roundtable”

### January 2006
15 Thomas Franco, MD
Alegent Health Immanuel Rehabilitation Center
Omaha, NE
“Spinal Cord Injury and Rehabilitation”

22 Robert Recker, MD
Creighton University Medical Center
Omaha, NE
“Metabolic Bone Diseases”

29 Ted Mikuls, MD
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE
“Crystalline Arthroplasty”

### April 2007
22 Robert Anderson, MD
Miller Orthopaedic Clinic
Charlotte, NC
“Midfoot Surgical Procedures”

Silver U, February 2007
Osvaldo ‘Andres’ Barrera, MSc, Research Associate

(Continued from page 4)

Andres grew up in Argentina and earned a bioengineering degree with a focus on medical imaging analysis. In Argentina, he taught electronics, designed interactive science exhibits and developed software for medical image applications. In his spare time Andres enjoys playing traditional South American music with friends in an Andean music band they formed called Surcos. Although they no longer play regularly, they do get together every once in awhile to, as Andres puts it, “refresh our souls.” Andres also plays rugby for the GOATS rugby football team in Omaha. He had played rugby in Argentina since childhood, stopped when he arrived in the U.S., and took up the sport again within the last two years. He and his wife, Julieta, have two sons, Federico and Santiago.

Department Life

Clinic staff members display blankets they made as a part of a community service project through UNMC Physicians, which were then donated to patients at their discretion.

Clinic staff, Sarah Melenka (back) and Lori Dawson (front), receive hands-on training from Dr. Matthew Mormino during a Casting Workshop held in February of 2007.
## Continuing Education and Grand Rounds

All UNMC orthopaedic alumni are welcome to attend the following continuing education seminars and Grand Rounds presented by department faculty, current residents, and guest speakers. Please call the department (402-559-4533) to check for possible updates to this schedule.

**May 2007**

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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Management of Knee OA</td>
<td>Dr. Curtis Hartman</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bone Graft and Substitutes</td>
<td>Dr. Matthew Mormino</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Achilles Tendon Reconstruction</td>
<td>Dr. David Inda</td>
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<td>No Conference: Memorial Day</td>
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**June 2007**

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<td>4</td>
<td>Radial Head Fractures</td>
<td>Dr. Edward Fehringer</td>
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<td>TBA (Dr. Michael Hawks)</td>
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<td>Morbidity &amp; Mortality</td>
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<td>22-23</td>
<td>Graduation Ceremonies</td>
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## Faculty News

**Congratulations** to Dr. and Mrs. Åke Nyström who are celebrating the recent birth of their daughter Emma Lovisa Munthe-Nyström, born on February 5, 2007. Dr. Nyström is an Associate Professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation.

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