



AlumniNews

Engaging Leaders. Connecting Peers.



New Scott W. Wolfe, MD, Traveling Fellowship Supports Training of Early-Career Hand Surgeons

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet the Recipients of the 107th Alumni Association Annual Meeting Awards

Hometown Heroes: Honoring Our Alumni Veterans
Jon B. Wang, MD

Welcome Class of 2025 Alumni & Graduation Awards



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AlumniNews

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From the Office of Alumni Affairs Reflections, Recognition, and Renewal

Message from Jose A. Rodriguez, MD

Director, Alumni Association
Resident 1994

HSS Alumni Association Leadership

Director

Jose A. Rodriguez, MD

Associate Directors

Peter K. Sculco, MD
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Secretary/Treasurer

Michael C. Fu, MD, MHS

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David M. Dines, MD

2027 President-Elect

Anna N. Miller, MD

As we journey further into the new year, we are greeted by fresh opportunities to connect, learn, and grow together. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our 107th Alumni Association Annual Meeting last fall—a true testament to our enduring community. In the following pages, you'll find highlights of this year's honorees, whose achievements we were proud to celebrate. It was a particular pleasure to welcome back our alumnus James E. Voos, MD, as Surgeon-in-Chief Pro-Tempore, and to have David C. Markel, MD, our 2025 Alumni President, join us in honoring our shared history and strong sense of community.

Embracing the spirit of giving back and looking ahead, this issue spotlights an exciting new fellowship initiative generously funded by Scott W. Wolfe, MD. This program empowers recently graduated hand and upper extremity fellows to design meaningful opportunities for connecting with thought leaders across their specialty. We are delighted to share the journeys of Marissa and Matthew, our inaugural recipients, who have just returned from their experiences and are eager to embark on the next stages of their careers.

We also honor and deeply appreciate the military service of one of our own, Jon B. Wang, MD, whose remarkable career spanned nearly five decades and was marked by unwavering dedication to his country. We have much to learn from his example and send our warmest wishes as he enters retirement. I have no doubt that more adventures await him.

Sadly, this season has brought tremendous loss, as we remember and honor the giants who have recently passed: our esteemed colleagues David Altchek, MD, Chitranjan Ranawat, MD, and Sameer Dixit, MD. Their absence is felt deeply, and we are committed to carrying on their legacies with respect and gratitude.

Please save the date for our annual meeting on October 23, 2026. We hope you'll join us on campus, but for those unable to attend in person, live streaming will be available. We are preparing a special lineup of distinguished guests and faculty, along with plans for our signature reception. We look forward to welcoming you for what promises to be a memorable occasion.

Lastly, we warmly welcome the Class of 2025 to our esteemed association. We are excited to see what the future holds for you and know that our HSS bond will continue to unite us all.

With appreciation,
Jose



SCAN HERE TO PRE-REGISTER

Newsweek Survey Opportunity for HSS Alumni

HSS Alumni participation in the Newsweek "World's Best Specialty Hospitals" survey helps patients around the world make better informed choices about where to seek the best care.

Pre-registration is required to participate in the next survey. **Register today.**



From the HSS Education Institute Looking Ahead Together

Message from James W. Schroeder Jr., MD, MBA

Chief Academic Officer
Designated Institutional Officer

HSS Education Institute
Alumni Leadership

Chief Academic Officer
Designated Institutional Officer
James W. Schroeder Jr., MD, MBA

Administrative Director,
Alumni Affairs
Director, Office of Education
Development & Alumni Affairs
Alena Competello, MS

Senior Coordinator,
Alumni Affairs
Brandon Schneider, MS

I'm writing to introduce myself as the new Chief Academic Officer at HSS. It's a privilege to step into this role at an institution that has shaped so many outstanding physicians and leaders in musculoskeletal care.

Like many of you, my professional life has been grounded in academic medicine, training physicians, supporting faculty, and building educational systems that serve both learners and the patients they ultimately care for. I come to HSS deeply respectful of its history and culture, and grateful for the work of those who have stewarded its academic mission to this point. I also recognize that transitions can bring uncertainty, and I want to be transparent in saying that my first priority is to listen, learn, and earn trust.

HSS's alumni community is one of its greatest strengths. The breadth of your careers—as surgeons, rheumatologists, physicians, educators, and leaders across practice settings—reflects the rigor of your training and the values instilled here. My hope is to strengthen connections between HSS and its alumni, not only to celebrate where you are now, but to better understand how the institution can continue to support you and learn from your experience.

In the months ahead, I look forward to opportunities to engage with you, formally and informally, and to hearing your perspectives on education, training, and the future of our field. Education has a unique ability to unite people across disciplines in a shared common purpose, and I believe that partnership with our alumni will be essential to what comes next.

Thank you for all you carry forward from HSS. I'm excited about what we can build together.

Warm regards,
Jim

SAVE THE DATE! 108th HSS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 23, 2026
7:00 AM–5:15 PM
ONSITE AT HSS & LIVESTREAM

Reception to follow the scientific meeting.
More information to come.
Please email alumni@hss.edu with
any questions.





Left: Marissa Dearden, MD, at the Bionic Limb Reconstruction Symposium in Vienna with Professor Oskar Aszmann of the Medical University of Vienna and his fellow, Dr. Ike Lee of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taiwan. Right: Matthew Abola, MD, pictured with Ahlam Arnaout, MD, during wrist arthroscopy training at the Institut de la Main in Paris, France.

New Scott W. Wolfe, MD, Traveling Fellowship Supports Training of Early-Career Hand Surgeons

Scott W. Wolfe, MD (Resident 1989), a distinguished hand and upper extremity surgeon at HSS, recalls the benefits of being selected for the 1998-1999 Bunnell Traveling Fellowship, a prestigious and highly competitive honor awarded by the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. Grateful for the opportunity that helped shape his subsequent career at HSS, Dr. Wolfe gifted a \$1 million endowment to support the Scott W. Wolfe, MD, Traveling Fellowship in Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery. The program will support the travels of two HSS Hand and Upper Extremity Fellowship graduates each year as they embark on their own professional journeys.

“After the Bunnell Fellowship, the number of colleagues with whom I could discuss clinical or research ideas tripled in size. I established relationships and learned from surgeons and scientists all over the world who were pushing the envelope of wrist reconstruction and brachial plexus surgery. It was absolutely career-launching for me,” explained Dr. Wolfe, who was recruited from Yale University to join the HSS faculty in 2000.

“I have a tremendous feeling of gratitude to HSS for a career of happiness and fulfillment, and I wanted to leave a legacy. I felt the best thing I could do would be to help my younger colleagues by giving them the opportunities that I had,” he added.

Two fellowships will be awarded each year to graduating HSS Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery fellows, chosen by a four-person committee from the Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery Service. “We like to choose fellows who are just raring to go — who are full of energy and excitement and want to travel the world, meet people, and make relationships that they can maintain for the rest of their careers,” Dr. Wolfe contended.

Each January, HSS hand fellows submit a one-page application explaining the areas of specialty they’d like to pursue. Applicants have often done enough reading and research by that point to know whom they want to train with, what countries they want to visit, or what

conferences they want to attend. HSS hand faculty can also help customize their program by emailing or calling their colleagues, who are usually happy to host the traveling fellows. “We try to stay out of the way as much as possible and let them plan it, but of course offer our help along the way,” Dr. Wolfe said.

Forging Connections

Fellows receive up to \$25,000 to cover travel expenses, accommodations, course registration(s), and meals during their fellowship. The fellowship activities run for four to eight weeks and must be completed within three months of graduation from the HSS Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery Fellowship.

Fellows are expected to present a report of their travels to the HSS Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery Service. Travel expenses to the HSS Alumni Association Annual Meeting and/or HSS Hand Conference of the year following the fellowship are also covered for accepted abstracts.

Meet the Inaugural Wolfe Traveling Fellows

The first two Wolfe Traveling Fellows — **Marissa Dearden, MD**, and **Matthew Abola, MD** — are graduates of the 2025 Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery fellowship class and presented reports of their travels to the Combined Hand Service Grand Rounds in December.

Marissa Dearden

A Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy who completed her orthopaedic surgery residency at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in 2024 and who returned there after fellowship, Dr. Dearden studied biomedical engineering as an undergraduate at Tulane University before getting her medical degree at Tulane University School of Medicine. Upon medical school graduation, she was commissioned into the Navy by her grandfather, who had served in the U.S. Army and was an engineer for NASA.

Dr. Dearden's military background strongly impacted her orthopaedic interest in advanced prosthetic techniques — such as targeted muscle reinnervation (TMR), osseointegration,

and myoelectric prosthetics — as well as total elbow arthroplasty. "I saw a lot of war-injured patients who were missing limbs or needed partial limb reconstruction, or more advanced amputations and reconstruction, and I was really drawn to that during my time in residency," she recalled. "That's why I decided to go into hand and upper extremity surgery."

She chose HSS for her fellowship because of the large number of hand surgeons on staff and their diversity of subspecialties. "I was attracted not only to the volume and complexity of cases, but to the diversity of thought at HSS. People do things in very different ways," she noted. "I wanted to make sure I learned as much as I could in that one year so when I came back to Walter Reed, I could give soldiers the best care that they deserve. In this pursuit, I was able to take advantage of every opportunity at HSS and completed over 1,100 cases in my fellowship year."

With the support of the Wolfe Traveling Fellowship in fall 2025, Dr. Dearden:

- Trained at the McFarlane Hand and Upper Limb Center in London, Ontario, Canada with Graham King, MD, and his colleagues Kenneth Faber, MD, and Yousif Atwan, MD, focusing on the surgical management of complex elbow injuries using techniques such as lateral paraolecranon and diamond pop-up approaches to elbow arthroplasty as well as olecranon tension band suture

fixation and elbow arthroscopy. She also made onsite presentations on transhumeral osseointegration and a new, potentially more durable elbow implant she has been working on with HSS hand and upper extremity surgeon **Robert N. Hotchkiss, MD**.

"We like to choose fellows who are just raring to go — who are full of energy and excitement and want to travel the world, meet people, and make relationships that they can maintain for the rest of their careers."

—Scott W. Wolfe, MD

- Attended the Annual Meeting of The American Society for Surgery of the Hand in Vancouver, where she took additional courses in elbow arthroplasty with Dr. King and colleagues.
- Trained in TMR, brachial plexus surgery, peripheral nerve management, and complex limb salvage in the setting of amputee care with surgeons Gregory Dumanian, MD, and his partners **Jason Koh, MD** (Resident 1999), and Lindsay Janes, MD, at Northwestern University.

[\(continued on page 8\)](#)



Professor Oskar Aszmann and Dr. Paul Cederna place percutaneous electrodes for myoelectric control in a transhumeral amputee.



Dr. Dearden with Dr. Jason Koh, a former HSS resident and current peripheral nerve specialist at Northwestern University.



Dr. Dearden worked with Dr. Yousif Atwan, where she learned the diamond pop-up approach for elbow arthroplasty.

Scott W. Wolfe, MD, Traveling Fellowship in Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery



Matthew Abola, MD, scrubbed in and learned from one of the masters of arthroscopy, P.C. Ho, MD, in Hong Kong, SAR.

- Attended the Global Elbow Network Conference in Miami, presenting on advances in elbow arthroplasty and engaging with Mayo Clinic surgeons to deepen her understanding.
- Traveled to Vienna to train in TMR for transhumeral and glenohumeral amputation, single-stage transhumeral osseointegration, and the implantation of myoelectric prosthetics with Prof. Oskar Aszmann at the Medical University of Vienna.
- While in Vienna, she also attended the Bionic Limb Reconstruction

Symposium, where she learned about advances in the agnostic-antagonist myoneural interface for improved residual limb proprioception and the cutaneous mechanoneural interface for providing haptic feedback to a transtibial amputee's prosthetic.

“This experience jumpstarted my career and taught me more than I thought possible.”

—Marissa Dearden, MD

Dr. Dearden is already managing a full schedule of diverse surgical cases at Walter Reed and has a seven-year commitment to the Navy to fulfill. “The Wolfe Traveling Fellowship gave me a really cool opportunity to explore these techniques further and learn other people’s approaches,” she concluded. “This experience jumpstarted my career and taught me more than I thought possible.”

Matthew Abola

Dr. Abola completed his orthopaedic surgery residency at New York University Langone Orthopaedic Hospital after earning his medical degree at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. The intricate anatomy of the hand inspired him to specialize in hand surgery. “Hand and upper extremity surgery was particularly appealing to me due to the variety of procedures and the meaningful impact on patients’ function and quality of life,” he explained. “In addition, the people I admired most were all hand surgeons.”

He was attracted to the Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery Fellowship at HSS. “HSS has such a diverse group of surgical techniques and approaches to complex problems, and all of the faculty are world-renowned,” Dr. Abola noted. “Rarely in medical education can you ask questions and learn from so many thought leaders and pioneers in the field.”



Dr. Abola with P.C. Ho, MD, and his team at Prince of Wales Hospital in Hong Kong.



Dr. Abola enjoyed hiking, biking, and Hong Kong’s renowned seafood with Dr. Ho.



Dr. Abola with the team of the Institut de la Main in Paris, France.



When not in the OR, Dr. Abola hiked with his newfound friend and mentor, P.C. Ho, pictured here atop one of Hong Kong's many peaks.

“I have developed such close relationships with surgeons across the globe, which would not have been possible without this fellowship.”

—Matthew Abola, MD

The Wolfe Traveling Fellowship gave him the opportunity to learn arthroscopic techniques from surgeons around the world.

- At Prince of Wales Hospital in Hong Kong, Dr. Abola learned arthroscopic scaphoid bone grafting from P.C. Ho, MD, the pioneering surgeon in this technique.
- At the International University of Health and Welfare in Tokyo, he trained in arthroscopic triangular fibrocartilage complex (TFCC) repair and capsular repair from Toshi Nakamura, MD, one of the thought leaders in TFCC.
- In Paris, Dr. Abola learned about arthroscopic management of scapholunate ligament injuries at Institut de la Main, hosted by Christophe Mathoulin, MD, Lorenzo Merlini, MD, and Ahlam Arnaout, MD.

Dr. Abola's travels culminated in the Advanced Wrist Arthroscopy Course in Strasbourg, France, where he learned from leaders around the world.

- He also attended the International Wrist Arthroscopic Society Arthroscopy course in Strasbourg, France.

Dr. Abola aspires to become a leader in arthroscopic hand surgery. “I am forever grateful for the learning and formative

experiences the Wolfe Traveling Fellowship provided,” he asserted. “I have developed such close relationships with surgeons across the globe, which would not have been possible without this fellowship.” ■



With gratitude to the Robert and Ardis James Foundation, whose generous support of the Scott W. Wolfe, MD, Traveling Fellowship in Hand and Upper Extremity accelerated its launch by two years.

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING



NOVEMBER 7, 2025



A



B



C

A: David C. Markel, MD, Stacy Markel, Lynne Moorman, Claude T. Moorman III, MD **B:** Yianni Apostolakos, MD, James E. Voos, MD, Russell F. Warren, MD, Jacob G. Calcei, MD **C:** Peter F. Rizzo, MD, Douglas E. Padgett, MD **D:** Full house at the 107th Alumni Association Annual Meeting in the Richard L. Menschel Conference Center **E:** Sunita S. Dhawlikar, MD, Sripad H. Dhawlikar, MD, Andrew V. Slucky, MD



D



E

The 107th Alumni Association Annual Meeting



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J

F: Andrew V. Slucky, MD **G:** Linda A. Russell, MD, Robert L. Buly, MD, Carl Triscari **H:** McKenna Campbell-Potter, MD, Sameer Dixit, MD, Dylan Bennett, MD **I:** Tony S. Shen, MD, Christopher M. Brusalis, MD, Bridget K. Ellsworth, MD, Kyle W. Morse, MD, Yianni Apostolakos, MD, Claire D. Eliasberg, MD, Lauren Barber, MD **J:** Romy S. Kallas, MD, Deanna Jannat-Khah, DrPH, Anne R. Bass, MD **K:** Benjamin F. Ricciardi, MD, David C. Markel, MD, Douglas E. Padgett, MD **L:** Douglas Freedberg, MD, Charles N. Cornell, MD, Andrew A. Sama, MD **M:** Michael M. Alexiades, MD



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The 107th Alumni Association Annual Meeting



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D

A: David C. Markel, MD, Alumni President 2025 and James E. Voos, MD, Surgeon-in-Chief Pro-Tempore **B:** James E. Voos, MD, Russell F. Warren, MD, Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA, Jim O'Holleran, MD **C:** Eduardo A. Salvati, MD, Cynthia Sculco, Antonella Salvati, Carol Lyden, John P. Lyden, MD, Melissa Skalicky, Jack Lyden, Catherine Lyden, Annie Lyden, Jennifer Lyden **D:** Jose A. Rodriguez, MD, Jaeyoung Kim, MD, Jason L. Koh, MD, MBA, Douglas E. Padgett, MD **E:** Lynne Moorman, Claude T. Moorman III, MD, Julie O'Farrell, Dermot O'Farrell, MCh, FRCSI, FRCSOrth **F:** Jose A. Rodriguez, MD, Benjamin F. Ricciardi, MD, Peter K. Sculco, MD, Amar S. Ranawat, MD, Edwin P. Su, MD



E



F

The 107th Alumni Association Annual Meeting



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K

G: Nicholas Sgrignoli, MD, Dermot O'Farrell, MCh, FRCSI, FRCSOrth, Julie O'Farrell **H:** Todd M. McGrath, MD, Tiana S. Woolridge, MD, MPH **I:** Frank P. Cammisa Jr., MD, Thomas Moran, MD, Meena S. Moran, MD **J:** David C. Markel, MD, James E. Voos, MD, Thomas L. Wickiewicz, MD, Mark Bowen, MD **K:** Nicolas Pascual-Leone, MD, Stephen J. O'Brien, MD, MBA **L:** Douglas Freedberg, MD, Kenneth Montgomery, MD, Michael Zahn, MD, Dennis Sullivan, MD, Thomas Moran, MD **M:** Douglas N. Mintz, MD



L



M

MEET THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 107TH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS



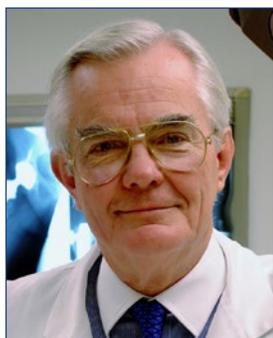
Four notable orthopaedic surgeons were honored at the 107th HSS Alumni Association Annual Meeting. We spoke with them about their careers and what their time at HSS has meant to them.

John P. Lyden, MD

Resident 1972, Fellow 1973

Orthopaedic Surgeon Emeritus

Honor: Distinguished Alumnus Award



John Lyden was just 15 years old when he began volunteering in the emergency room and on the ambulance service for Norwalk Hospital in Connecticut, and he quickly got hooked on the excitement and bustling activity. Little did he know then that he would devote his life to managing traumatic injuries, both in the hospital and on the battlefield.

After completing his undergraduate studies at Harvard College in 1961, Dr. Lyden went to medical school at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons (class of 1965). Like several prominent HSS surgeons, he began his surgical residency at Roosevelt Hospital, where he spent the next two years and took a liking to orthopaedics. "I liked the mechanics. I had always been attracted to engineering, and with orthopaedics, I felt it was basically skeletal human engineering," he explained.

In 1967, Dr. Lyden was drafted into the U.S. Navy Medical Corps, where he became part of the team for the Pentagon that evaluated weapons, body armor, and medical evacuation needs at the Edgewood Arsenal at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. As part of a team of field Marines who evaluated the disability and incapacitation of casualties and corpsmen and documented their medical needs, he was assigned to the 1st Marine Division, a M.A.S.H. unit in Da Nang, South Vietnam. He also spent one day each week volunteering at a local civilian hospital.

"This award is a big lift. It means that somebody felt I was doing the job."

—John P. Lyden, MD

The experience shaped his future as an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in trauma care. "In those situations, you really learn about teamwork, especially when you're under attack, and what it takes to just do your job when there are guys outside the ORs trying to do us in," he said. "You learn about loyalty, camaraderie, and brotherhood." In recognition of his meritorious service under fire, Dr. Lyden was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor. He also received the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and three Presidential Unit Citations.

When he returned to the United States, he came to HSS to pursue his orthopaedic surgery residency, finishing in 1972. Learning from the great musculoskeletal educators — including **Philip D. Wilson Jr., MD, John N. Insall, MD, and Chitranjan S. Ranawat, MD** — he enjoyed the HSS team approach so much that he stayed an extra year to complete a hand surgery fellowship in 1973.

"There was a team effort where we all participated one way or another in the operating room," Dr. Lyden recalled. "We were all part of the process. We didn't just sit in the corner. We could really get our hands in it."

Similarly, he recommends that early-career orthopaedic surgeons become part of a team. "Don't try and stand alone and do it by yourself," he advised. "Become part of an institution where they will welcome you, teach you, and support you."



John P. Lyden, MD, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Jose A. Rodriguez, MD.

Alumni Award Recipients (continued)

Dr. Lyden spent his entire academic career at HSS, retiring from practice in 2023. He was especially proud of leading the creation of a malpractice insurance company for HSS faculty in 1981, at a time when major changes in the insurance industry in New York State made affordable malpractice insurance difficult to find. He also established and funds the annual resident graduation awards honoring Samuel Delgado, CST, and Jean C. McDaniel.

Today he lives in New York City with his wife, Carol, not far from their children Jack and Jennifer and their three grandchildren. They enjoy collecting Chinese, Japanese, and Korean art and spending time at their country home in Westchester County. He is grateful to win the HSS Distinguished Alumnus Award. "Having been there my whole career with my colleagues and friends, I very much appreciate it," Dr. Lyden said.

Ashley Poynton, MD

Fellow 2002 and 2003

Spine Surgeon, Poynton Spine Care, Mater Private Network, Ireland

Honor: Pier Giorgio Marchetti, MD, International Award



Established in 2010, this award recognizes outstanding lifetime achievement in orthopaedic surgery by an international fellow who trained at HSS. Dr. Poynton is the Clinical Director for Spine and Orthopaedics at Mater Private Network in Ireland. Prior to coming to HSS, he completed his orthopaedic surgical training under the auspices of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. He

came to HSS in 2001 and pursued a metabolic bone fellowship under Joseph Lane, MD, followed by a fellowship focused on spine surgery and scoliosis, which he completed in 2003.

In Ireland, medical school begins after high school. Four years into his six-year program, Dr. Poynton began to have doubts about his future medical career — until he witnessed a knee replacement procedure. That's when he knew he wanted to pursue orthopaedics. "I was attracted to the biomechanics, tools, and instruments, working with my hands and applying that in a clinical fashion," he recalled.

"The most important person in the hospital is not the best surgeon. It's the patient. That's why we're all here."

—Ashley Poynton, MD

He was further drawn to spine care because of its complexity. "It fascinated me and I saw it as a huge challenge and such a vast area," Dr. Poynton noted. When he began his fellowship at HSS, he was impressed by the confidence and competence



From left: Charles N. Cornell, MD, Antonella Salvati, John P. Lyden, MD, Carol Lyden, and Eduardo A. Salvati, MD, celebrate with Dr. Lyden.

of the surgical staff. He performed scores of kyphoplasty procedures during his metabolic bone fellowship before moving on to complex as well as routine spinal operations through the spine and scoliosis fellowship, trained by surgeons such as **Frank P. Cammisa Jr., MD**, and **Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, MD**. "My training at HSS brought my level of operating to a different level," Dr. Poynton asserted. "A lot of cases that could be daunting to many surgeons became very routine for me."

It was a level of skill that was direly needed in Ireland, where surgical spine care was developing, but still lacking in comparison to the United States. Upon his return to his home country in 2003, he was appointed to the National Spine Injuries Unit, which required a significant boost in terms of expertise and resources. "My training at HSS gave me the ability to do that, and I became Director of the unit quite quickly," Dr. Poynton explained. He did more cases in the first six months than many surgeons would do in five years.

In 2011, he went into private practice full time. He established the Poynton Spine Care Institute in Dublin in 2014, offering comprehensive care that not only included surgery, but nursing care and physical therapy as well. He set up a second location in Limerick. In 2022, Mater Private Network acquired both practices, naming Dr. Poynton as Clinical Director for Spine and Orthopaedics.

He has since been overseeing expansion of the practice's services to other clinical areas — such as a formal spinal deformities program, tumor surgery, and acute spinal care — and to institute a more academic approach that includes training, mentoring, and research. The practice signed on its first fellow in 2025.

Dr. Poynton estimates he has performed some 14,000 operations over the course of his career, and takes the greatest satisfaction in the lives he's been able to impact. He's equally proud of having balanced his professional achievements with a deep commitment to his wife and three daughters (two of whom were [\(continued on page 16\)](#))

Alumni Award Recipients [\(continued\)](#)

born in New York during his fellowship years). He credits his training at HSS with instilling a lifelong drive to continually improve.

“There’s always room to be better. That’s what HSS taught me,” Dr. Poynton concluded. “Whether that means new technologies, techniques, or ways of dealing with people, every single day, you can learn something relatively new. You just have to be open to it.”

Jaeyoung Kim, MD

Research Fellow 2023, Clinical Fellow 2026

Honor: Lance Peters, MD, Memorial Biomechanics Award



This award recognizes a current or recent HSS-trained researcher for an outstanding published paper in biomechanics research. It was created to recognize Dr. Peters’s extensive involvement in biomechanics during his orthopaedic training at HSS. Dr. Kim received this award for his paper “Passive Eversion Assessment for Progressive Collapsing Foot Deformity After Lateral Column Lengthening: A Cadaveric Biomechanical Study,” published in *The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* in May 2024.

Dr. Kim conducted this investigation as a Research Fellow at HSS and is currently a Foot and Ankle Fellow. A native of South Korea, he earned his medical degree and completed his orthopaedic residency and fellowship training in his home country. Following completion of his training, he served as a Captain in the Republic of Korea Air Force. After completing his military service, he moved to the United States for a research fellowship at HSS, and subsequently completed clinical fellowships at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas and Harvard–Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Lateral column lengthening (LCL) is a popular procedure to correct forefoot abduction in progressive collapsing foot deformity (PCFD). Although it provides reliable radiographic correction, postoperative foot stiffness and lateral plantar foot pain are potential complications and major concerns. Dr. Kim and his colleagues sought to understand why these issues occur by assessing the role of hindfoot eversion and determining the influence of wedge size on outcomes.

They evaluated cadaveric specimens using a robotic gait simulator under five conditions: a healthy foot, a foot with simulated PCFD, and three LCL conditions using different wedge sizes (4, 6, and 8 mm). They found that reduced eversion shifted plantar pressure toward the lateral side of the foot. Larger wedges used during LCL reduced eversion and increased lateral

“I’ve had a lot of research questions. I came to HSS for research, and I can do everything here.”

—Jaeyoung Kim, MD

plantar pressure, with each 1-mm increase in wedge size further shifting pressure laterally.

The findings suggest that preserving hindfoot eversion intraoperatively may be important for preventing excessive lateral overloading. “With each additional millimeter of lengthening, there is a tendency toward reduced eversion motion, which increases lateral plantar pressure — a factor known to correlate with patients’ lateral foot pain,” said Dr. Kim. “Even a 1-mm change in lengthening makes a difference,” he added. The study found that wedges between 4 and 6 mm are likely within the ideal range to preserve normal hindfoot motion, which is smaller than what has typically been used in clinical practice. Dr. Kim noted that additional studies are underway to further evaluate these findings.

He explained why HSS offers a perfect environment for this kind of research. “I had the opportunity to do a biomechanical study with relevance to patients,” Dr. Kim said. “There is a great gait simulator here, a cadaver lab, and engineers to help. I met a mentor who has a lot of clinical questions and interest in doing this basic science research. Those are the strengths of being at HSS.”

David C. Markel, MD

Fellow 1994

Orthopaedic Surgeon, Motor City Orthopedics and Henry Ford Health

Honor: 2025 Alumni Association President



Dr. Markel was a lifelong Michigander before coming to HSS in 1993. He earned his undergraduate degree at Kalamazoo College, followed by medical school, internship, and orthopaedic surgery residency at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor (where he still lives today). During his residency, he studied orthopaedic trauma as an AO International Trauma Fellow in Bochum, Germany.

A fellowship at HSS beckoned, and Dr. Markel followed. His mother was from Queens and he was familiar with New York City, having spent a few weeks each summer working in his grandfather’s musical instrument store at 46th Street and Broadway. “Even as a teen, the city was not so daunting and seemed like an attractive place,” he recalled.

His grandmother began getting spine and joint care at HSS. “I always knew HSS was a preeminent place to train, particularly for arthroplasty. As the fellowship decisions arrived, everything came full circle and connected a lot of dots,” he added. Being able to live at the new Belaire Building at HSS, complete with parking, was also a big plus.

Dr. Markel was in the first fellowship class to partake in the combined Hip and Knee Fellowship, featuring six months of training on the Hip Service led by **Eduardo A. Salvati, MD**, followed by knee surgery training directed by the late **Russell E. Windsor, MD**. The training he received taught him how to complete high volumes of cases while providing personalized, high-quality care.

“HSS showed me that you could take care of very significant problems while running a private academic model,” he said.

Alumni Award Recipients *(continued)*

“These surgeons were super classy, sitting down in their offices and speaking with patients in a concierge type of system while achieving high volumes, conducting academic research, and having a national presence. It was a model to aspire to and if you got there, you knew you’d be successful.”

It is a model Dr. Markel emulated after returning to Michigan, where he serves as the past chair and current Service Line Director for Orthopaedic Surgery at Henry Ford–Providence Hospital in Southfield and Providence Park Hospital in Novi. His surgical practice focuses solely on hip and knee. He also pursues academic work, including clinical research on outcomes and quality indicators for hip and knee surgery, as well as lab studies on immunology and infections. Dr. Markel currently serves as the program director for the Henry Ford–Providence Hospital orthopaedic residency program, in addition to holding academic positions at both Wayne State and Michigan State Universities.

Dr. Markel is an Examiner for The American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, a board member of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons, a two-time Past President and current Board Member of the Michigan Orthopaedic Society, and the Second Vice President of the Mid America Orthopaedic Association. He has been inducted into both The Knee Society and The Hip Society. Dr. Markel encourages early-career surgeons to consider becoming active in such societies.

“Try to be active in nonclinical activities, such as administrative functions, society functions, or state societies, because there are always opportunities for young people in those groups,” he advised. “Getting involved with these organizations early on will yield great resources for you later. People who are willing to do the work are always welcome.”

“Although Fellows do not spend as much time at HSS as residents, they do become immediately connected. HSS rapidly becomes your community. Being part of the HSS family stays with you forever. Even if you live far away, it is very meaningful.”

—David C. Markel, MD

He also encourages work-life balance and not missing out on too many things when children are young. He credits his wife, Stacy, for her immense support throughout his career and in raising their four children.

As President, Dr. Markel focused on expanding growth and outreach of the HSS Alumni Association. Fellows do not spend as much time at HSS as residents and may not feel as connected, but it does not have to be that way. “People are looking for community and for common experiences,” he explained. “Although Fellows do not spend as much time at HSS as residents, they do become immediately connected. HSS rapidly becomes your community. Being part of the HSS family stays with you forever. Even if you live far away, it is very meaningful. I think we can encourage growth in that area and bring people back together, which would be quite rewarding.” ■

Welcome Our 2025 CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

The **Class Representative Initiative** is a network of HSS alumni who act as liaisons between the Office of Alumni Affairs and their peers. The HSS Education Institute and Office of Alumni Affairs partner with Class Reps throughout the year to provide updates about career and personal milestones and inform their peers of upcoming Alumni Association programs and events.

We recognize our newest representatives and welcome members of the **Class of 2025** to connect with them.



Francesca Coxe, MD
Residency Class Rep
Adult Reconstruction and
Joint Replacement Fellow
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY



Stefano Ghirardelli, MD
Surgical Fellows Class Rep
Villa Maria Hospital
The Ortho Team ETS
Padua, Italy



Romy Kallas, MD
Non-Surgical Fellows
Class Rep
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY



HSS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES | November 7, 2025 | 7:00 – 7:30 am ET

Surgeon-in-Chief Report
Douglas E. Padgett, MD

- Medical Leadership Transitions: **Drs. Bowen, Bridges, Ramirez, Schroeder, Williams**
- HSS Academics: 10 ACGME Programs, 7 Non-Standard Programs, 46 Residents, 75 Fellows
- Residency Program Highlights: \$1M raised through Autumn Benefit for Education and Research
- Congratulations to Teaching Award Recipients: **Drs. Della Valle, Leali, Dowdell, and Morris**
- Select Education Highlights (e.g., Digital Transformation of Anesthesia Fellows Training Program)
- Alumni Association Networking Events held at AOSSM, AOFAS, ASSH, and AAHKS Meetings
- Alumni participation encouraged in Newsweek Survey and Op-Ed Collaboration Opportunity

HSS President Report
Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA

- Reviewed Strategic Priorities: Focused Foundation, Scalable Platform, and Mobility Revolution
- New Collaborations
 - General Atlantic: Scalable ASC platform – One Ortho, ability to partner with Alumni
 - Deerfield: Investment vehicle to rapidly improve technology to support advanced MSK care
 - Peloton: HSS curated workout programs and Peloton member access to HSS
- Strategic Growth
 - Increase footprint from 2 to 5-6 ASCs and from 14 to 17-18 OPCs in the Tri-State
 - 80th Street Institute for Movement and Longevity: Longevity Center, Imaging Center, Sports and Performance Medicine Center and Academics, Recovery and Training Center

Alumni President Report
David C. Markel, MD

- Reviewed Alumni Membership Benefits
- 2025 Alumni Dues Roster – “Thank you” to the 470 alumni who paid their dues
- Join us in New Orleans at the AAOS Alumni Reception – **Thursday, March 5, 2026 at Chemin la Mer**
- Review and approve new HSS Credentialing Categories for inclusion in Bylaws
- Save the Date for the 108th HSS Alumni Association Annual Meeting – Friday, October 23, 2026
- Shared In Memoriam – **Gabriel Cruz “Gabe” Baltazar, MD; Stephen H. Homer, MD; Robert Lyle Fisher, MD; David W. Altchek, MD; James Stephen Bethea III, MD; Chitranjan S. Ranawat, MD**
- Reminder of 2026 Alumni Association President – **David M. Dines, MD**
- Announced 2027 Alumni Association President – **Anna N. Miller, MD**
- Dr. Markel called for volunteers to join him on the Nominating Committee for the 2028 Alumni President
 - **Claude T. Moorman III, MD, and Robert G. Marx, MD, MSc, FRCSC** were selected

Alumni Financial Report
Michael C. Fu, MD, MHS

- Reviewed Direct Operating Expenses and Income Sources
- Reviewed Alumni Association Specific Purpose Funds
- Provided year over year dues summary 2024→2025
 - 2025 Dues to Date: 470 payments compared to 417 payments in 2024
- Review and approve \$50 dues increase



HSS Alumni Association Annual Meeting Business Meeting Minutes (continued)

Review & Approve Bylaws Updates The “new approved” updates were approved during the business meeting.		
	Previous State	New Approved
<p>New Credentialing Categories for Inclusion in the Association <i>A motion by Douglas Padgett, MD, was seconded by Jose A. Rodriguez, MD, and Claude T. Moorman III, MD, approved by majority vote, and passed.</i></p>	<p>All persons on or who have been on the Attending Staff, and all Senior Scientists of the Research Division in the Hospital of the Ruptured and Crippled (R&C) or Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), shall be considered Associate Members of the Association.</p>	<p>All persons on or who have been on the Attending Staff, including Associate and Regional Medical Staff, and all Senior Scientists of the Research Division in the Hospital of the Ruptured and Crippled (R&C) or Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), shall be considered Associate Members of the Association.</p>
<p>\$50 Alumni Dues Increase <i>A motion by Michael C. Fu, MD, MHS, was approved by majority vote, and passed.</i></p>	<p>Active and Associate members shall pay \$200 in annual dues.</p>	<p>Active and Associate members shall pay \$250 in annual dues.</p>

Reinvigorate your commitment to the HSS Alumni Association.
 Pay your 2026 Dues Today.



Scan QR code or visit support.hss.edu/alumnidues

Hometown Heroes

Honoring Our Alumni Veterans

Jon B. Wang, MD

Fellow 1974, Resident 1977

Hometown Heroes is an Alumni News series that celebrates the many HSS faculty and alumni who have served our country in the military.



In hindsight, it seems that **Jon B. Wang, MD**, was destined for military service. His earliest memory was on a U.S. Army post in India in 1945, when he was just 4 years old. Years later, Wang served as a Green Beret medic in Vietnam — an experience that influenced his decision to improve people’s quality of life by becoming an orthopaedic surgeon. He spent the next several decades in Tucson, working in private practice and helping athletes on several local sports teams get back in the game.

Born in Kweiyang, China, in 1941, Dr. Wang was just 18 months old when his father — a London-educated physician of Chinese descent — was stationed in northeast India as part of Chiang Kai-Shek’s Nationalist Army, which had been driven out of China by the Japanese. “They were being trained at the post to reclaim their motherland,” Dr. Wang explained. His mother, a teacher from South Carolina who had been invited to teach at Yenching University, made her way to an American transport plane in Kunming which brought her and her young son over the Himalayas to the post in India.

“Being on that Army post was my first recollection. So I’ve always felt comfortable being around the Army,” Dr. Wang asserted. In the years to follow, the family would live in South Carolina and British Guiana before settling in the 1950s in New Mexico, where Dr. Wang spent the last three years of high school at the New Mexico Military Institute. He went to Princeton and then entered the University of New Mexico’s



Dr. Wang in Vietnam in 1971.

first medical school class, graduating in 1968.

“In those days, if you were a doctor, you were going to be drafted because the Vietnam War was on. There was no escaping it,” said Dr. Wang. “I didn’t want to escape it anyway because I felt indebted to

this country. But there was a plan available called the Berry Plan.” Named after the Roosevelt Hospital surgeon Frank B. Berry, MD, the initiative allowed physicians in training to defer their military obligation until completing one, two, or all years of their residency program. Dr. Wang petitioned the Department of Defense to serve in the Army after he finished two years of a five-year general surgical residency at Roosevelt Hospital.

When it came time to serve in 1970, he traveled to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio to begin his training, which included instruction in treating tropical diseases and war injuries. Fresh off reading *The Green Berets* by Robin Moore, he was captivated when an officer who arrived at Fort Sam Houston announced he was seeking doctors to volunteer for Special Forces units. Dr. Wang volunteered, passed his physical fitness test, and went to Fort Benning to earn his Parachutist Badge. He then went to Fort Bragg for Special Forces training and qualified as a Green Beret — a soldier trained in the skills, equipment, and tactics of unconventional warfare.

In 1971, he began his deployment in Vietnam as one of about 200 Green Berets and 800 mercenaries (indigenous mountain people) who were tasked with reconnaissance and ambushes on the Ho Chi Minh Trail. As the only doctor in his unit, he worked with his Special Forces medics, treating illnesses and performing basic surgical procedures. He also rotated with his medics on combat missions for which he was awarded the Combat Medic Badge.

His unit was a Top Secret Special Warfare group whose activities were not declassified until 30 years later. It was named MACV-SOG and was comprised of Special Forces and CIA operatives who executed some of the most dangerous and successful covert missions of the war — some conducted in North Vietnam, as well as Laos and Cambodia. Once their mission became declassified, the unit received the Presidential Unit Citation “for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy.”

To be a good leader, you have to set the example. I learned to never ask someone to do something that I wouldn’t do myself. That carried over to being a surgeon in the operating room, taking care of patients on the floor, and asking nurses to do something for us.”

—Jon B. Wang, MD

At the end of his 12-month tour, he volunteered to stay another two months as part of a unit where Cambodians were being trained to fight the Khmer Rouge.

While there, Dr. Wang had the opportunity to use his surgical skills to help local villagers. One was a 4-year-old boy with a cleft lip. "I had never done one of these operations, but I thought, this may be the only opportunity for this child," he recalled. Following the step-by-step surgical procedures outlined in a textbook and supported by a Special Forces medic who knew how to administer ketamine anesthesia, he completed the operation.

"It was a very detailed procedure, but I thank God for giving me the skills and the willingness to try. We did, and it turned out well," said Dr. Wang.

"It is a privilege to be an American, and I was pleased to serve in our military," he continued. "The opportunities I had in Vietnam allowed me to use my medical education and military training in support of my Special Forces teammates."

Returning to Surgical Training

His experience in Vietnam reshaped Dr. Wang's professional future. "I decided that I no longer wanted to be a general surgeon," he maintained. "I had always enjoyed working with orthopaedic surgeons, and I thought I would rather do something to help people with quality of life rather than quantity of life. I had seen enough of the dark side of length of life that I'd rather work with the quality of life."

Dr. Wang completed the third year of his surgical residency at Roosevelt Hospital and applied for an orthopaedic residency at HSS. **Philip D. Wilson Jr., MD**, who was the new Surgeon-in-Chief, told him he was accepted, but the residency class of 1973 was already filled.

Because he had three years of general surgery training, with much experience in trauma care and in the military, Dr. Wang could put in a year as a Sports Medicine Fellow with Dr. John Marshall before starting his orthopaedic residency. He therefore became the first Sports Medicine Fellow at HSS. He completed the fellowship and then his orthopaedic residency.

"At HSS, there was an atmosphere of family, cooperation, and support. I've gone back almost every year for the Alumni Association meeting," said Dr. Wang, who served as HSS Alumni Association President in 2011. "Also at HSS, there wasn't just one way of doing things. By working with multiple surgeons doing the same kinds of procedures, I could see different ways of approaching the same problem from doctors who had a lot of experience. Then I could decide which of these worked best for me."

Dr. Wang and his wife, Noreen, moved to Tucson, where he joined a three-surgeon practice that eventually grew to more than 30 doctors. He practiced general orthopaedics and treated sports injuries, serving as Team Doctor for University of Arizona athletes for more than 40 years.

"I enjoyed the opportunity to be around college students who had a lot of energy and enthusiasm. Every August, when everybody comes back to school, it's a whole new year and new excitement.



Dr. Wang points to the name of his teammate Danny Entrican of Tupelo, Mississippi, at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. "Let us remember now – and every day – our brothers who came home in body bags, and those still somewhere over there," he said.

Everybody's ready to be a winner, and it's a fun environment to be in," he explained. "The opportunity to help an athlete get back to doing what they want to do is very rewarding."

Lessons from the Military

Dr. Wang began stepping back from his full-time orthopaedic practice in 2005, ultimately retiring in 2021. He now volunteers in multiple capacities, including speaking with incarcerated veterans at a state prison every Friday afternoon. He is also active in his local Rotary Club (the largest in Arizona), where he initiated and runs a coaching program to help elementary school students improve their reading skills.

He and Noreen recently sold their Tucson home, which featured a femur-shaped swimming pool, so they could downsize to a nearby community. They have two sons: Davin is a mechanical engineer in Tucson, and Nolan works in film production in Los Angeles.

Dr. Wang credits his military training for teaching him skills that helped him become a better surgeon. The first is leadership. "To be a good leader, you have to set the example. I learned to never ask someone to do something that I wouldn't do myself," he contended. "That carried over to being a surgeon in the operating room, taking care of patients on the floor, and asking nurses to do something for us."

The second skill is creativity. "Especially in Special Forces, you learn how to be creative and do things you've never done before. You use what you know and whatever skills and assets you've been blessed with and hope for the best," Dr. Wang added.

Finally, he always has a contingency plan. "You better plan ahead that if this happens, this is what we're going to do. And if that happens, we're going to do the other," he noted. "If you're going to be a good surgeon, you better think about every possible thing that could go wrong in the operating room, and know ahead of time what you may do to solve the problem, because that's not the time to start thinking of solutions. I think those are the major gifts I acquired from military training." ■

Awards & Accolades

Residents

Peter J. Millett, MD, MSc (Resident 2000), and his research team won second place in the Richard B. Caspari Award at the ISAKOS Congress in Munich, Germany, for their groundbreaking study on reverse total shoulder arthroplasty using robotic assessment.

Julia S. Retzky, MD (Resident 2025), was awarded first place in the 2025 OREF National Resident Research Symposium for her presentation of "Early Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction Mitigates the Development of Post-traumatic Osteoarthritis in a Murine Anterior Cruciate Ligament Rupture Model." You can watch her award-winning research at [youtube.com/watch?v=AQx50bM299Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQx50bM299Q)

Alexander E. White, MD (Resident 2025), won the OREF Presenters' Choice Award for "The Effect of Posterior Tibial Slope on Tibiofemoral Joint Biomechanics: An In-Vitro Analysis."

Additional top scoring residents from the Class of 2026 included **Joshua T. Bram, MD**, for "Skeletal Age Assessment from Knee Radiographs Using Deep Learning" and **Sreetha Sidharthan, MD**, for "Reverse-Anatomical Front and Back Reconstruction for Volar Intercalated Segment Instability Non-Dissociative: A Biomechanical Study."



Julia Retzky, MD, was recognized by Duretti Fufa, MD, with the Russell F. Warren, MD, Award for Excellence in Orthopaedic Basic/Translational Research at the June 2025 Long Coat & Award Ceremony.

Fellows



Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD, was recognized with the Order of Saint Lucia for exceptional service.

Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD (Fellow 1994), has been appointed Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Lucia, an honor established by Queen Elizabeth II. He will now be known as Sir Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD, KCSL, recognizing his extraordinary contributions to science, medicine, and humanity. He is the first surgeon in history elected to the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Medicine, and the National Academy of Inventors.



Beth E. Shubin Stein, MD, received the Thomas L. Wickiewicz, MD, Award for teaching in June.

Beth E. Shubin Stein, MD (Fellow 2002), was awarded this year's Thomas L. Wickiewicz, MD, Award for Teaching. This award honors an attending who has shown exceptional commitment to the education, mentorship, and development of the HSS Sports Medicine Fellows.

Kwadwo Owusu-Akyaw, MD (Fellow 2020), was named to the Avant-Garde Health Research All-Star Top 1% List for 2025, recognizing his exceptional contributions to orthopaedic research.

Laura Moore, MD, PhD (Fellow 2023), is an OREF 2025 New Investigator Grant recipient for her study in the role of cellular senescence in joint stiffness.

HSS Faculty

Distinguished physicians **Todd J. Albert, MD**, and **Joel M. Press, MD**, were honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards at the HSS Tribute Dinner in June. The Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest recognition for an outstanding healthcare leader at HSS. "Both Dr. Albert and Dr. Press have made significant contributions to the advancement of musculoskeletal medicine and exemplify the finest qualities found in physicians," said **Douglas E. Padgett, MD**, surgeon-in-chief and medical director of HSS.



Sheeraz Qureshi, MD, MBA, and Douglas E. Padgett, MD, award Todd J. Albert, MD, with the HSS Lifetime Achievement Award.



Joel M. Press, MD, received the HSS Lifetime Achievement Award from Joel Ehrenkranz and Douglas E. Padgett, MD.

GRADUATION AWARD RECIPIENTS 2025



Heather Haeberle, MD, received the Academic Achievement Award from Duretti Fufa, MD



Todd J. Albert, MD, and Duretti Fufa, MD, recognized Kyle Kunze, MD with the Todd J. Albert, MD, Leadership Award.



Douglas E. Padgett, MD, presented Scott LaValva, MD, with the Jean C. McDaniel Award.



Jeremy Suhardi, MD, was awarded the Thomas P. Sculco, MD, Award from Dr. Sculco and Duretti Fufa, MD.

Residents

Academic Achievement Award
Heather Suzanne Haeberle, MD

Todd J. Albert, MD, Leadership Award
Kyle N. Kunze, MD

Jean C. McDaniel Award
Scott Michael LaValva, MD

Thomas P. Sculco, MD, Award
Vincentius Jeremy Suhardi, MD, PhD

Lewis Clark Wagner, MD, Award for Excellence in Orthopaedic Clinical/Translational Research

Vincentius Jeremy Suhardi, MD, PhD

Russell F. Warren, MD, Award for Excellence in Orthopaedic Basic/Translational Research
Julia Suzanne Retzky, MD

Fellows

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

Philip D. Wilson Award for Excellence in Orthopaedic Surgery Research

Katherine E. Mallett, MD

Charles L. Christian, MD, Award for Excellence in Musculoskeletal Research
McKenna R. Campbell-Potter, MD

Best Research Poster Award
Mason E. Uvodich, MD

ADULT RECONSTRUCTION

Award for Clinical Excellence by a Fellow
Josef E. Jolissaint, MD

Award for Research Excellence by a Fellow

Katherine E. Mallett, MD

LIMB LENGTHENING AND COMPLEX RECONSTRUCTION

Gavriil Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Limb Lengthening Fellowship

Sarah Hebert-Seropian, MD

SPORTS MEDICINE AND SHOULDER

Warren Kadrmas Fellow Citizenship Award

Alyssa D. Althoff, MD

Russell F. Warren Research Award
Mark J. Amirtharaj, MD

REGIONAL ANESTHESIOLOGY & ACUTE PAIN MEDICINE

Dr. Nigel E. Sharrock Award for Academic Excellence
Justin Chew, MD

HSS Attending Anesthesiologists' Award for Clinical Excellence
Janet Shin, MD

HSS Leadership Award
Richard Jones, MD

HSS Fellow Educator of the Year
Mariusz Ligocki, MD

Faculty and Staff

Nancy Kane Bischoff Mentor Award
Alejandro Leali, MD

Samuel Delgado, CST, Award
Mheljun Capre, CST

Richard S. Laskin, MD
Young Attending Award
James E. Dowdell III, MD

Philip D. Wilson, Jr., MD
Teaching Award
Alejandro Gonzalez Della Valle, MD

HSS Diversity Award
Carol D. Morris, MD, MS

ADULT RECONSTRUCTION

Fellows' Teaching Award
Jason L. Blevins, MD

FOOT AND ANKLE

Foot and Ankle Service Mentorship Award

Scott J. Ellis, MD

Foot and Ankle Service Teaching Award
Martin J. O'Malley, MD

SPORTS MEDICINE AND SHOULDER

Thomas L. Wickiewicz Teaching Award
Beth E. Shubin Stein, MD

MUSCULOSKELETAL RADIOLOGY & IMAGING

Fellow Award for Teacher of the Year
Diego Jaramillo, MD

Fellow Award for Mentor of the Year
Kevin R. Math, MD

REGIONAL ANESTHESIOLOGY & ACUTE PAIN MEDICINE

Fellows Award for Teacher of the Year
Oliver PF Panzer, MD

Cornell-NYP Anesthesiology Residents' Award for Teacher of the Year
Philip J. Wagner, MD

RHEUMATOLOGY

Division of Rheumatology Award for Teaching Excellence
David R. Fernandez, MD, PhD

Portrait Dedication for Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA

As is the tradition with previous Surgeons-in-Chief, a portrait of Dr. Kelly has been unveiled and installed in the Richard L. Menschel Education Center. The portrait was created by Boston-based artist Ying-He Liu, who has completed more than 300 commissioned portraits on display around the world. Ying-He received her B.A. in Fine Arts from Stony Brook University where she graduated Summa Cum Laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She pursued postgraduate study under the tutelage of James McMullen in illustration at the School of Visual Arts in New York City. Prior to her arrival in the U.S., she was an English major in Anhui Norm University and had the rare privilege of studying privately with two prominent Chinese masters Ha Ding and Yan Wen Liang for many years in Shanghai, China. This is her fifth commission for HSS; she has painted impressive portraits of Drs. Sculco, Levine, Salvati, and Crow.



November 17, 2025

- A.** Staff, faculty, family, and friends gather for the dedication and unveiling festivities.
- B.** Thomas P. Sculco, MD
- C.** Russell F. Warren, MD
- D.** Edwin P. Su, MD and Todd J. Albert, MD
- E.** Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA, and David J. Mayman, MD
- F.** Surgeons-in-Chief past and present (from left) Thomas P. Sculco, MD, Todd J. Albert, MD, Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA, Russell F. Warren, MD, and Douglas E. Padgett, MD, gather around the newly unveiled portrait of Dr. Kelly.

Class Notes

Residents



Dr. Klapper on ABC TV Los Angeles

Robert Klapper, MD (Resident 1988), had a blast bringing KLAPPERVISION to life on ABC TV in Los Angeles, turning complex sports injuries into vivid, memorable stories. It's all about painting pictures with words to make orthopaedics more accessible and engaging!

Dennis Sullivan, MD, PA (Resident 1985, Fellow 1982), was selected to serve on the medical staff for the 2025 U.S. National Junior Ice Hockey Team, which competed at the IIHF World Junior Championship in Ottawa. His dedication to athlete care continues to be recognized on the international stage.

Peter J. Millett, MD, MS (Resident 2000), shared insight on the pressures sports physicians face in the evolving Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) era. Read the full article: <https://drmillett.com/dr-millett-discusses-physicians-under-pressure-name-image-likeness-era-armature-athletics/>

Joseph Ruzbarsky, MD (Resident 2019), has been appointed to Aspen Valley Health's Board of Directors.

Fellows

Robert G. Marx, MD (Fellow 2000), was named First Vice President of The International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (ISAKOS) Board of Directors at the 15th Biennial Congress in Munich, Germany.

Justin Conway, MD (Fellow 2017), is entering his third year as a dedicated member of the AMSSM Collaborative Research Network (CRN) leadership team, which aims to support multicenter research collaborations and foster evidence-based advancements in sports medicine. He is currently serving as a Co-Chair of the 2026 AMSSM Research Summit on Orthobiologics, through which he is helping to lead a writing group focused specifically on platelet-based therapies for muscle injuries.

In addition to reconnecting with HSS Sports Medicine alumni at the 2025 AMSSM Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Dr. Conway contributed to multiple educational and research-focused sessions. This included a presentation on the findings of the AMSSM Delphi Consensus Statement on Viscosupplementation, which outlined expert agreement and clinical applications for the use of intra-articular hyaluronic acid in knee OA, and "A Primer on Cricket for the Sports Medicine Physician," an introduction to the world of cricket and its implications for injury patterns and care. Keep an eye out for cricket returning to the Summer Olympics in L.A. 2028!

Gabriella E. Ode, MD, FAAOS, FAOA (Fellow 2019), was named the Orthopaedic Surgery Sports Medicine Fellowship Director at HSS.

HSS Faculty

Jessica Heyer, MD, hosted the Perry Initiative for high school students to learn about various aspects of orthopaedics and biomechanics through lectures, hands-on activities, and question and answer sessions. She was accompanied by several HSS Residents and other HSS Staff.

Are you an alumnus working with the Perry Initiative at your institution? We'd love to hear from you, please reach out to alumni@hss.edu.



Michelle Kew, MD, conducted a session of the Perry Initiative for high school students.

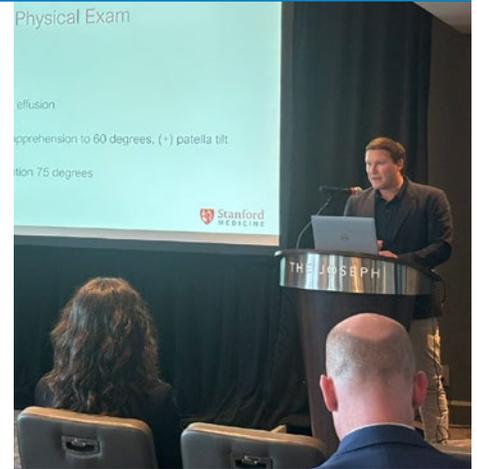


Keep us informed. What's New?

Let your fellow alumni know about recent career accomplishments, awards, research, publications, family milestones, and volunteer/humanitarian projects. We would like to share your updates in an upcoming issue of the *HSS Alumni News* magazine. Send your updates to alumni@hss.edu.

HSS Alumni gather at NATIONAL MEETINGS

AOSSM & W SOCIETY NASHVILLE JULY 2025



AOFAS SAVANNAH SEPTEMBER 2025

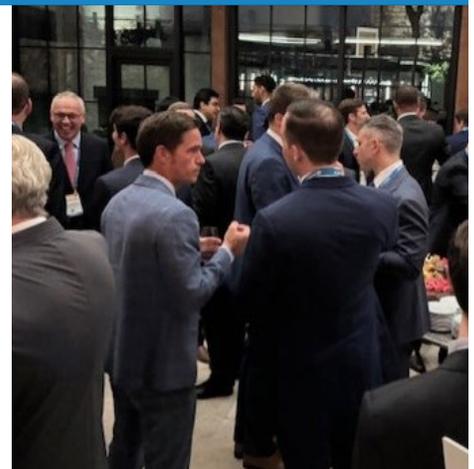


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Thank you for your generosity and continued support,



Michael C. Fu, MD, MHS
Secretary/Treasurer
HSS Alumni Association

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The David B. Levine, MD Archives and Special Collections

Adopt-a-Book Program

DONATIONS RESTORE FULL COLLECTION OF MEDICAL HISTORY BOOKS

The David B. Levine, MD, Archives and Special Collections houses a unique selection of medical books dating from approximately 1800–1950. These books, which focus primarily on orthopaedics and rheumatology, are a rich resource for the history of medical practice and provide much of the groundwork for medicine as we know it today.

Frank A. Cordasco, MD, MS, recently donated funds to support the restoration of the book *John Hunter, Man of Science and Surgeon*. David B. Levine, MD, generously donated funding for two books, *Pott's Disease, Its Pathology and Mechanical Treatment*, in memory of Chitranjan S. Ranawat, MD, and *The Spine: Its Curvatures and Other Diseases, Their Symptoms, Treatment, and Cure: Remarks on Paralysis*, dedicated to David W. Altchek, MD.

The final books in The David B. Levine, MD, Archives and Special Collections will be restored through Mr. Patrick Wilson's gift to the Adopt-a-Book program, made in memory of his late grandmother, Germaine "Mimi" Wilson. While her husband, Dr. Philip D. Wilson Sr., served as Surgeon-in-Chief at HSS, Mimi volunteered across the institution, including at the HSS Library.

Deeply committed to service, Mimi cherished her work in the Library, reflecting the shared dedication to caring for others that brought Mimi and Philip together. They met in Paris during World War I, where Mimi was a volunteer nurse, and Philip was part of a group of American physicians treating wounded soldiers returning from the front. Upon returning to the United States as a married couple, they continued their legacy of service in Boston and in New York City.

Patrick's fond memories of Mimi's volunteer work, coupled with his father, the late Dr. Philip D. Wilson Jr.'s, interest in documenting the history of HSS, made this a meaningful and fitting tribute.

Thank you to all the contributors to the Adopt-a-Book program; you can view the entire collection at hss.edu/archives-adopt-a-book.

Welcome to the Alumni Association!

NEW HSS ATTENDINGS 2025

The following attendings joined the HSS medical staff in 2025:

JANUARY 2025

Carlito G. Arenas, MD

Attending Physician, Department of Medicine, Perioperative Medicine

Matthew T. Drake, MD, PhD

Attending Physician, Chief, Endocrinology and Metabolic Bone

Storm V. Horine, MD

Attending Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiology, Pain Management

Nicole S. Matar, MD

Attending Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiology, Pain Management

Alyson B. Weiner, MD

Attending Physician, Department of Medicine, Pediatric Endocrinology

Steven W. Werns, MD

Attending Physician, Department of Medicine, Cardiovascular Disease

MAY 2025

Abigail K. Allen, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Pediatric Orthopaedics

Abishek K. Gupta, DO

Attending Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiology

Deirdre S. Rodericks, MD

Attending Physiatrist, Physiatry
Fellow 2021

JULY 2025

Dariusz Borys, MD

Attending Pathologist, Pathology

Delaram Shakoob, MD

Attending Radiologist, Radiology
Fellow 2025

AUGUST 2025

Matthew V. Abola, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Hand and Upper Extremity
Fellow 2025

Mark J. Amirtharaj, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Sports Medicine
Fellow 2025

Marco D. Burkhard, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Spine
Fellow 2025

Nora Cao, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Pediatric Orthopaedics
Fellow 2023

Richard D. Jones, MD

Attending Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiology
Fellow 2025

Stephane Owusu-Sarpong, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Spine
Fellow 2025

Joshua E. Powell, MD

Attending Radiologist, Radiology

Ashley Y. Weng, MD

Attending Neurologist, Neurology,
Fellow 2023

SEPTEMBER 2025

Alex J. Anatone, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Adult Reconstruction and Joint Replacement
Resident 2024, Fellow 2025

Kathryn A. Barth, MD

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Trauma
Resident 2024

McKenna R. Campbell-Potter, MD

Attending Physician, Primary Sports Medicine
Fellow 2025

OCTOBER 2025

Meghan L. Barr, MD

Attending Plastic Surgeon, Hand and Upper Extremity

Mark K. Bowen, MD

Attending Surgeon, Sports Medicine
Medical Advisor for Strategy and Business Development
Resident 1990, Fellow 1991

Jatin H. Joshi, MD

Attending Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiology

Romy S. Kallas, MD

Attending Physician, Rheumatology
Fellow 2025

Eva K. Ritzl, MD

Attending Neurologist, Neurology

Roger Yang, MD

Attending Anesthesiologist, Anesthesiology

NOVEMBER 2025

Sohrab S. Virk, MD, MBA

Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon, Spine
Fellow 2020

HSS Florida PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS

The HSS Alumni Association welcomes the following Active and Associate Members to the Association:

Matthew A. Buttler, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Hand and Upper Extremity

Christopher Colosanti, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Sports Medicine

J. Patrick Connors, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Adult Reconstruction and
Joint Replacement

Kathleen L. Davenport, MD
Physiatrist, Physiatry
Fellow 2013

Zachary J. Grabel, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon, Spine

Angelie Mascarinas, MD
Physiatrist, Physiatry
Fellow 2016

Michael D. Milligan, MD, MBA
Physician, Primary Sports Medicine

Martin W. Roche, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Adult Reconstruction and
Joint Replacement

Nicholas Sama, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon, Trauma,
Fellow 2005

Ryan W. Simovitch, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon, Sports
Medicine

Charlton Stucken, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Sports Medicine

Spencer H. Summers, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Adult Reconstruction and
Joint Replacement

John Wang, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Adult Reconstruction and
Joint Replacement
Fellow 2011

DID YOU KNOW?

Regional and Associate Medical Staff, including our physicians at HSS Florida, were formally welcomed to HSS Alumni Association in the category of Associate Members at the 107th HSS Alumni Association Annual Meeting. These physicians join our growing network of more than 2,700 alumni, including not only former residents and fellows, but also all current and former attendings and senior scientists at HSS.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the benefits of your membership.



HSS Journal® Moves to Digital-only Format

HSS Journal, after 20 years of hybrid (electronic and print) publication, is shifting to a bimonthly, digital-only format in 2026.

Recent issues have explored AI in musculoskeletal care, regenerative medicine in orthopaedics, and outpatient arthroplasty. The Journal will continue offering free CME credits through HSS eAcademy, peer-reviewer credit, and open-access articles.

As an HSS alum, you have traditionally received print issues. To ensure your continued access to *HSS Journal*, **you'll be receiving an email offering you a free year as a subscriber**, with access to the journal's full archive. Be sure to sign up and visit the website at <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/hss>.

If you have ideas for articles or themed issues, please contact the managing editor at jacobsonj@hss.edu.

Remembering David W. Altchek, MD

Resident 1987 and Fellow 1988 | HSS Faculty



HSS mourns the loss of **David W. Altchek, MD**, a revered colleague and legend in the field of sports medicine. Surrounded by his family, he died on July 17, 2025, at the age of 68 following a courageous battle with a brain tumor.

Throughout his long and distinguished career, Dr. Altchek was a beloved member of the HSS community. After completing his residency

and fellowship at HSS in 1988, he joined the orthopaedic faculty, rising to become Chief of the Sports Medicine and Shoulder Service (2005-2014).

Getting His Start in Orthopaedics

Dr. Altchek was raised in Middletown, New York, where he excelled as a tennis player at Middletown High School. Following in the footsteps of his father — Dr. Martin Altchek, a local orthopaedic surgeon — he earned his medical degree from Weill Cornell Medicine in 1982 and completed his internship at The New York Hospital before coming to HSS. Along the way, he was mentored by **Russell F. Warren, MD** (Resident 1973), Surgeon-in-Chief Emeritus, and a longtime team physician for the New York Giants, who introduced Dr. Altchek to the world of orthopaedic care for elite athletes.

Outside of HSS, Dr. Altchek's surgical acumen and personalized approach to patient care were admired by many. He shared his expertise with numerous sports organizations, most notably as head team physician (1991-2001) and later medical director (returning in 2005) for the New York Mets; physician for the U.S. Davis Cup tennis team (1999-2003); medical consultant for the National Basketball Association; and North American medical director for the Association of Tennis Professionals Tour.

Dr. Altchek's boundless energy and upbeat attitude lifted everyone he met at HSS, contributing to the warm and inclusive environment that HSS embodies today. For those fortunate enough to receive care from him — from elite athletes to average New Yorkers — he changed their

lives in significant ways by restoring them to the level of performance that preceded their injuries.

As a remarkable teacher, Dr. Altchek trained many leading orthopaedic surgeons at HSS and across the United States. His expertise spanned numerous surgical specialties, from ACL repairs to shoulder replacements, each performed with a level of skill that was unmatched. His legacy will live on among the residents and fellows with whom he shared his extraordinary surgical skills and talents.

Excelling in Tommy John Surgery

He is best known for his excellence in ulnar collateral ligament reconstructions (Tommy John surgery), for which he developed a technique that improved patient outcomes. Dr. Altchek innovated the Tommy John procedure originally developed by Frank Jobe in 1974 by devising a more secure way to anchor the replacement tendon into the bone, enhancing its durability under the intense strain of professional baseball. The refined technique also reduces the risk of post-surgical fractures and boasts a higher success rate than earlier methods.

Over the past 35 years, if a Mets player needed Tommy John surgery, odds are that Dr. Altchek was the one who did the procedure. From Todd Hundley to Jacob deGrom, Steven Matz, Zack Wheeler, and Noah Syndergaard, Dr. Altchek was a constant presence in the operating room. He estimated performing roughly 2,400 of these operations.

"We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. David Altchek," Mets owners Steve and Alex Cohen said in a statement. "Renowned worldwide for his surgical expertise, he was equally admired for the compassion and care he showed to our players. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues."

Leading Expansion at HSS

In addition to his leadership role in sports medicine, Dr. Altchek held a number of senior positions at HSS, including as Founding Medical Director and surgeon leader of HSS Florida and Medical Director of the Sports Medicine Institute West Side. In all of these positions, he upheld the world-class orthopaedic care for which HSS is renowned.

“He dedicated his life to healing others, and his patients, colleagues, friends, and family were all impacted by his generosity, his integrity, and his unwavering commitment to excellence,” wrote his son Charles in a LinkedIn announcement. “What I will carry with me most is how he led by example — with grace and resilience. He taught me that kindness is strength, that precision matters, and that no achievement is more meaningful than how you treat the people around you.”

Through his exceptional vision, Dr. Altchek transformed the field of sports medicine. All of us at HSS extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Anne; each of his children, Charles, Christopher, Chloe, and Sophie, and their spouses; and his seven grandchildren. He will no doubt be fondly remembered by his colleagues and the thousands of patients whose lives he touched.

If you would like to make a gift in honor of Dr. Altchek, the family requests donations be made to the David W. Altchek Chair in Sports Medicine at bit.ly/altcheck-chair-sports-med.

“ David Altchek was clearly one of the most highly regarded sports medicine orthopaedic surgeons in the country for many years. Over the last 35 years, David and I worked together both with the New York Mets and with the ATP Men’s Tennis Tour. But I was even more fortunate to know David and his family, not just as a colleague, but truly as dear friends.

David was a physician’s physician and a surgeon’s surgeon. He epitomized making difficult surgical situations seem easy and was an outstanding teacher and mentor to so many residents and fellows over the years. David was not only an elegant physician and surgeon — he was the consummate gentleman.

Clearly, he will be missed greatly by Anne and his wonderful children and grandchildren, but he will also be dearly missed by all of us in his HSS family. The good news is that his legacy will go on. He made many significant contributions to the field of sports medicine that will be carried on by all of those whom he affected due to his wonderful enthusiasm and caring for patients, colleagues, and trainees alike!

— David Dines, MD

“ To my children and to all of us, David was Superman. He was incredibly warm and caring. He always made it his mission to be the best.

— Walter Beaver, MD



The Altchek Family celebrated with Dr. Altchek during the 37th Tribute Dinner at the American Museum of Natural History in June 2022.



Dr. Altchek received the HSS Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022 from New York Yankees hall-of-fame pitcher and former patient Mariano Rivera and HSS President & CEO Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA

“ I can only hope to live a life like that: joyful, intentional, and fully alive. Another thing I learned from him is no matter what happens, keep going. The lesson he left me was simple. Listen to your gut. Be decisive. Don’t dwell.

— Christopher Altchek

“ He treated a 12-year-old aspiring athlete, a head of state, a major league ball player, or a caddy with the same level of dignity he would have wanted his own family to have. Once in a lifetime, we get a friend and colleague like Dr. Altchek. We’ll always remember him for his immense talent, innovation, and generosity and how he brought out the greatness in each of us.

— Keith Williamson, MS, PA-C, ATC

A Tribute to Chitranjan S. Ranawat, MD

Fellow 1967 and 1968 | HSS Faculty

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of the passing of **Chitranjan S. Ranawat, MD**, on September 26, 2025. Dr. Ranawat was an honored alumnus, a visionary leader, and a beloved member of the Hospital for Special Surgery. His legacy as a pioneer in orthopaedic surgery has shaped our institution and the field at large.



Dr. Ranawat's career spanned more than five decades, marked by innovation, dedication, and global impact. Born in Sarwania, India, in 1935 to Bhairon Singh and Udai Kumari Ranawat, he completed his medical education and surgical training in India, Canada, and Albany, NY, before joining HSS in 1966 as a hand fellow.

He later went on to become the first arthroplasty fellow of the Surgical Arthritis Service. He became an Attending Orthopaedic Surgeon at HSS in 1969, serving in this role for over 50 years, ultimately becoming the Chief of the Service. He became a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and Chairman of the Ranawat Orthopaedic Center.

Dr. Ranawat's contributions to joint replacement surgery are legendary. He was instrumental in the design and development of numerous implants which improved the lives of countless patients.

Throughout his career, Dr. Ranawat held numerous leadership positions, including Founder and First President of The Knee Society, President of The Hip Society, President of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons, President of the Eastern Orthopaedic Society, President of the New York

Academy of Medicine, and Chairman of Orthopaedic Surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital. He was a founding member of the *Journal of Arthroplasty* and served on many editorial boards and professional societies.

Dr. Ranawat received countless honors, including Lifetime Achievement Awards from The Knee Society, The Hip Society, The Arthritis Foundation, the American College of Rheumatology, the International Society for Technology in Arthroplasty, the Asia Pacific Arthroplasty Society, and the Indian Arthroplasty Association. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan (one of the highest civilian awards) by the Government of India. He served as President of the HSS Alumni Association in 1992–1993.

His philanthropic efforts were equally remarkable. Dr. Ranawat organized donations of over \$10 million in orthopaedic implants to hospitals in India and established the Ranawat Orthopaedic Conference and the Ranawat Orthopaedic Research Foundation. Through his contributions and education he has trained over 75 Indian surgeons who now perform almost half of all hip and knee arthroplasties in India.

Dr. Ranawat is survived by his wife Gudrun ("Gudi"). His legacy continues through his children, including **Dr. Amar S. Ranawat** and **Dr. Anil S. Ranawat**, both distinguished surgeons at HSS. We extend our deepest condolences to Amar and Anil and their sister Karen, their spouses, and Dr. Ranawat's 11 grandchildren. We also remember his son Chet. His siblings include his brother Gajendra Singh (deceased), his brother Jayendra Singh and his wife Manu in New Jersey, his brother Dr. Nitranjan Singh and his wife Sneha in the United Kingdom, and his sister Lakshmi Kumari in India including multiple nieces and nephews around the world.

Dr. Ranawat's vision, mentorship, and humanity will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

Dr. 'Chit' Ranawat's enduring rich legacy at HSS includes the continuing service of his sons Amar Ranawat, MD and Dr. Anil Ranawat. At the celebration, many of Chit's words of wisdom were shared, including this which still resonates strongly: "The eyes only see what the mind knows." — Bryan T. Kelly, MD, MBA



Chitrnanjan Ranawat, MD, and his wife, Gudrun.



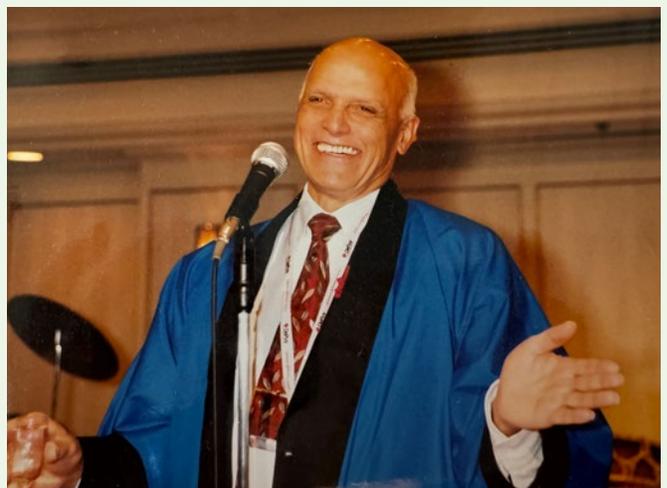
The Ranawats and their grandchildren.



Chitrnanjan Ranawat, MD, Amar Ranawat, MD, and their surgical team on his last day in the OR.



Dr. Ranawat established the Ranawat Orthopaedic Conference which recently celebrated 22 years of training surgeons in India.



Chitrnanjan Ranawat, MD

Robert Lyle Fisher, MD

Resident 1967



We are saddened to announce the passing of our colleague, **Robert Lyle Fisher, MD**, on June 12, 2025, at the age of 90. He graduated as Salutatorian from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in 1952, where he met his wife, Susan Glaser Fisher, with whom he was married for 68 years. He received a B.S. from Yale in 1956 and graduated from Yale Medical School in 1959. Dr. Fisher completed an orthopaedic surgery residency at Hospital for Special Surgery in 1967.

Dr. Fisher then embarked on a distinguished career as an orthopaedic surgeon and medical researcher. In 1967, he received the Kappa Delta Award from the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, given to researchers who have made key discoveries and advanced the field of orthopaedics. He was elected to an American-British-Canadian traveling fellowship to England in 1973. He served as the Director of Research at Newington Children's Hospital from 1967 to 1977 and as Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at Hartford Hospital from 1976 to 1992. In Connecticut, he was a pioneer in arthroscopic knee surgery and authored over 40 peer-reviewed journal publications throughout his career. After his retirement, he served as president of the Wethersfield Historic Society, took German classes at Trinity College, and played piano for the Old Guard.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, we extend our deepest condolences to Susan and their three children, Bradford Lyle Fisher, Donald Myron Fisher, Janice Lynn Fisher, and grandchildren Hannah Kelley and Elizabeth Ann Fisher.

Stephen H. Homer, MD

Resident 1967



Stephen H. Homer, MD, 87, of Kernersville, NC, passed away on October 15, 2024. He was born December 26, 1936, in Philadelphia, PA, to Dr. Benjamin David and Sylvia Homer.

Dr. Homer graduated second in his class from Central High School of Philadelphia, Phi Beta Kappa in chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania, and served as President of the AOA from the University of Pennsylvania College of Medicine. He did a rotating internship and one year of Internal Medicine residency at Penn before deciding to become a surgeon. He completed his residency at Hospital for Special Surgery, where he was chief resident, graduating in 1967.

He accepted an invitation to teach at Bowman Gray School of Medicine and chose to stay in the Winston-Salem area for the rest of his life, notwithstanding invitations to teach surgery at UCLA and Stanford University.

Dr. Homer loved being a team physician for Wake Forest University during the seventies, and for Winston-Salem State University during the eighties. He was appreciated by injured players for refusing to numb them or tape them and send them back into the game at the risk of future permanent injury.

Dr. Homer retired from medicine in the late eighties, and spent the next 35 years in real estate management and investment, mostly as general partner of All-South Management, which built, owned, and managed apartment properties in Winston-Salem and Kernersville. The apartments were known for vetting renters of mostly modest means, then creating a family atmosphere in a well-maintained environment.

He had a great fondness for animals, whom he recognized as sentient and emotional beings. They gave him much comfort and taught him to look even more for the love of people.

Stephen was preceded in death by his former wife, Judith, with whom he remained friends until her death. On behalf of the Alumni Association, we extend our deepest condolences to his brother, Mark Homer, of Townsend, TN.

James Stephen Bethea III, MD

Resident 1970



James Stephen Bethea III, MD, passed away on August 12, 2025, at the age of 86. He was born in Boston, MA, during the time his father, James Stephen Bethea II, was a career U.S. Naval Officer studying for an advanced degree at M.I.T. and his mother, Dorothy Thomas Bethea, was a nursery schoolteacher.

As the oldest of four boys, his early years were somewhat nomadic following his father's career from New England to Philadelphia to Washington, DC to California during WWII, and back again. With those moves, he gained a keen interest in people, their stories, and backgrounds. He attended Cornell University where he rowed on the crew team, winning/losing jerseys as they competed throughout his college years.

He obtained a BA in Physics at Cornell, before earning his MD degree at UVA, then his orthopaedic residency at Hospital for Special Surgery, Class of 1970. He completed his selective service obligation as Chief of Orthopaedics, USPHS Hospitals in New Orleans and then Baltimore.

In the early 1970s, he went to Atlanta where he taught at Emory University for a few years before setting up his own orthopaedic practice, Southern Orthopaedic Clinic, at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital until his retirement in the early 2000s.

He lived each day of retirement with intention: cheering on his three grown children and seven grandchildren in all their endeavors, staying in touch with lifelong friends, traveling the world on the QEII and with ARGO, celebrating holidays, birthdays, and milestone anniversaries, compiling special pictures into custom-made photo collage books, joining the Lenbrook Singers, and striking up conversations with servers and strangers wherever he was. Even as he valiantly faced surgical procedures and hospitalizations during his final years, he was eager to know the doctors and nurses caring for him – where they grew up, where they studied, how they chose their specialty, etc.

His lifelong community involvement included the Buckhead Rotary Club (42 years of perfect attendance) as well as volunteer service with The Arthritis Foundation, The Tommy Nobis Center, Boy Scouts of America, and the Administrative Board at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church. He also eagerly enjoyed and readily shared his love for boating, fishing, listening to Audible books, and lifelong learning.

In his own words, "the best, the luckiest, decision of my long life was marrying my wife, Margaret Beasley Davidson, from Bluefield, WV. She was indeed my helpmate, my alter-ego, my better self - always there with a warm smile and understanding affection for family and tolerating my foibles."

He is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Margaret. He is also survived by three brothers: Tom (Bonnie) of Tucson, AZ; David (Kim) of Madison, WI; and Rick (Gail) of The Villages, FL. He is survived by their two daughters, Margaret Patton Bethea Fowler (John) of Atlanta, GA, and Dorothy Camden Bethea of Franklin, TN, as well as their son, James Stephen Bethea IV of Atlanta, GA. Additionally, he is survived by seven grandchildren: Katie Bethea, John Thomas Fowler, Jim Bethea V, Maggie Fowler, Tom Bethea, Mary Margaret Bethea, and Robert Fowler.

Gabriel Cruz Baltazar, MD

Fellow 2020



Gabriel “Gabe” Cruz Baltazar, MD, passed away tragically and unexpectedly on August 7, 2024, at age 37. He was two weeks shy of his 38th birthday.

Gabe was born on August 23, 1986, in Dallas, TX, to Beth and Romeo Baltazar. He attended St. Mark’s School of Texas and went on to earn his undergraduate degree at the University of Pennsylvania, where he met his wife, Naomi. Gabe and Naomi later attended medical school at Tulane University. After medical school, Gabe completed his anesthesiology residency at Mount Sinai in New York City, followed by a fellowship in Regional Anesthesiology and Acute Pain Medicine at Hospital for Special Surgery, while Naomi continued her medical training in New York City.

At HSS, Gabe was the kind of person everyone loved being around. He lifted the spirits of those lucky enough to share his company, and his patients benefited not only from his outstanding clinical skill, but also from the warmth, humor, and infectious smile he brought to even the most difficult moments. In 2020, he received the HSS Anesthesia Attending Clinical Excellence Award, recognizing the fellow who demonstrated exemplary clinical care and exceptional dedication to patients.

After fellowship, Gabe and Naomi returned to New Orleans so Naomi could complete additional training. There, Gabe began his first job as a practicing anesthesiologist. They also welcomed their daughter, Roxanne (“Roxie”), on March 1, 2024. She was just five months old when Gabe passed away.

Everyone who knew Gabe knew he was simply the best: brilliant, kind, compassionate, hardworking, and endlessly fun to be with. He had a great sense of humor and was an incredible cook. Exceptionally tech-savvy, he loved video games and had a special affection for Star Wars and funny movies. He also had great taste in music and a talent for planning unforgettable vacations. People felt at ease around Gabe; he made the world feel a little lighter. He loved his cat, Zoltan, almost as much as he loved his daughter, Roxie.

Gabe was devoted to his wife, his family, his friends, and his colleagues. The world was a better place with Gabe in it.

Gabe is survived by his wife, Naomi; daughter, Roxie; mother, Beth; father, Romeo; grandmother, Mimi; two younger sisters, Flannery (Jon) and Lexi (Suleymaan); nephew, Cruz; and a multitude of cousins, aunts, and uncles.



Gabe with his fellow cohort at the Fall 2019 Department Welcome Party.



Gabe during a fellowship ultrasound workshop.

Sameer Dixit, MD

HSS Faculty



With great sadness, we share news of the passing of **Sameer “Sam” Dixit, MD**, beloved colleague, friend, and mentor to many. On behalf of the entire HSS community, we offer our deepest condolences to Dr. Dixit’s wife, Rachana, and their children, Shiv (age 8) and Siya (age 6).

Dr. Dixit’s contributions to sports medicine and his unwavering dedication to patient care and educating the next generation have left a profound and lasting mark on HSS, on the broader medical community, and on the lives of patients across

the country whom he impacted greatly.

Dr. Dixit dedicated nearly 20 years to caring for athletes of all ages and skill — from recreational to professional. His patient-centered approach, rooted in his background in primary care, reflected his commitment to treating the whole person and helping individuals achieve their athletic goals. He used innovative non-surgical treatments and collaborated closely with surgical colleagues to ensure the highest standard of care.

A graduate with honors in bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Dixit earned his medical degree from the University of Maryland and completed his internal medicine residency at Northwestern University’s McGaw Medical Center. He went on to complete a two-year sports medicine fellowship at UCLA, later serving as head team physician at the University of California, Berkeley—one of the youngest to hold such a role in a major collegiate program. Before joining HSS, Dr. Dixit spent a decade at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he was instrumental in developing its primary care sports medicine program.

He provided care for athletes at all levels, including high school, collegiate, professional, and international teams. His team coverage included UCLA, UC Berkeley, Johns Hopkins Athletics, the Baltimore Orioles, and the New York Knicks. Most recently, he served as a team physician for the New York Giants and USA Lacrosse. At HSS, he led the Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship as program director, shaping the next generation of sports medicine physicians. He served on the Board of Directors of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine as Chair of the Publications Committee. He also contributed extensively to the field through research, publications, and national lectures, and served as Associate Editor for the Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine. Dr. Dixit was a passionate advocate for exercise and physical activity, engaging with members of the U.S. Congress on numerous occasions to promote health and wellness.

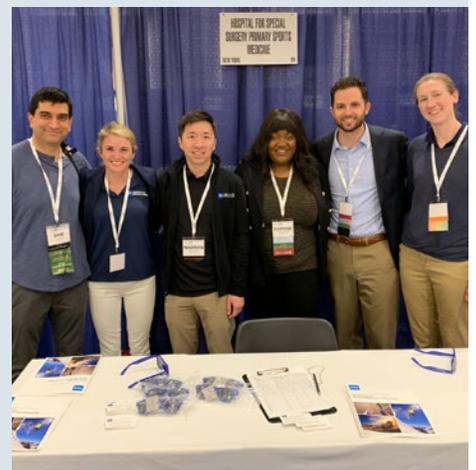
Dr. Dixit will be remembered for his extraordinary skill, his deep compassion for patients, and his dedication to education and mentorship. We mourn the loss of Dr. Dixit with gratitude for the privilege of having served with him and the dedication of the Primary Sports Medicine team in supporting patients in his care.



Sam on the field at MetLife Stadium with Sam Taylor, MD, and Jonathan Coss, MD.



Sam Dixit, MD, with colleagues John DiFiori, MD, and Marci Goolsby, MD.



Fellowship fair at the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM).

Welcome Class of 2025 Alumni

Congratulations to our **2025 residency and fellowship graduates**. We wish them well as they embark on their postgraduate positions.

2025 Resident Graduates



Left to Right: (front row) Gregory Kazarian, MD, Scott LaValva, MD, Julia Retzky, MD, Jeremy Suhardi, MD, PhD, Heather Haerberle, MD, Duretti Fufa, MD; (second row) Kyle Kunze, MD, Blake Meza, MD, Alexander White, MD, Karthik Nathan, MD, Frannie Coxe, MD, Douglas E. Padgett, MD, Peter D. Fabricant, MD, MPH, David M. Scher, MD

Resident Graduates & Fellowship Appointments

Francesca Rose Coxe, MD

Adult Reconstructive Surgery
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

Heather Suzanne Haerberle, MD

Orthopaedic Trauma
UTHealth Houston
McGovern School of Medicine
Houston, TX

Gregory Stephen Kazarian, MD

Spine Surgery
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

Kyle Nash Kunze, MD

Sports Medicine
Rush University Medical Center
Chicago, IL

Scott Michael LaValva, MD

Adult Reconstruction
University of Utah Health
School of Medicine
Salt Lake City, UT

Blake Collins Meza, MD

Sports Medicine
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

Karthik Nathan, MD

Sports Medicine
NYU Grossman School of Medicine
New York, NY

Julia Suzanne Retzky, MD

Sports Medicine
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

Vincentius Jeremy Suhardi, MD, PhD

Adult Reconstructive Surgery
NYU Grossman School of Medicine
New York, NY

Alexander Earle White, MD

Sports Medicine
Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

2025 Fellowship Graduates



June 16, 2025



July 14, 2025

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Adult Reconstruction

Alex J. Anatone, MD
Matthew Wyatt Booth, MD, MSc
Richard Hwang, MD
Josef Edmund Jolissaint, MD
Katherine Elizabeth Mallett, MD
Anthony Jason Wiggins, MD

Complex Joint Reconstruction

Stefano Ghirardelli, MD

Foot and Ankle

Rebekah Belayneh, MD
Dwayne Donovan Carney, MD, MPH
David Edward Ruckle, MD

Hand and Upper Extremity

Matthew Veenendaal Abola, MD
Marissa E. Dearden, MD
Lynn Ann Forrester, MD
Burke Gao, MD

Limb Lengthening and Complex Reconstruction

Mohamed Abdelaziz Elsayed Elghazy
Abdelaziz, MD, PhD
Sarah Hebert-Seropian, MD

Multi-Specialty Spine Care and Surgery International Fellowship

Marco D. Burkhard, MD

Orthopaedic Trauma

Adam Hadley Kantor, MD, MBA
Adam Michael Schlauch, MD

Pediatric Orthopaedics

Tyler Richard Mange, MD

Shoulder

Christopher Vincent Wilhelm, MD, MHS

Spine

Luis Felipe Colón IV, MD
Farah N. Musharbash, MD
Stéphane Owusu-Sarpong, MD
Quante ArmonId Singleton, MD

Sports Medicine

Alyssa Davies Althoff, MD
Mark Jeyaseelan Amirtharaj, MD
Hayden Patrick Baker, MD
Obianuju Adamma Obioha, MD
Lasun O. Oladeji, MD, PhD
Ryan Rundle Thacher, MD
Mason Edward Uvodich, MD

Department of Anesthesiology, Critical Care & Pain Management

Regional Anesthesiology and Acute Pain Medicine

Abimbola Adegbola, MD
Cindy Carolina Ardilla, MD
Justin W. Chew, MD, PhD
Nicholas John Gadsden, MD
Richard David Jones, MD
Eleonara Koschchak, DO
Jonathan Jone-Ho Li, MD
Mariusz Ligocki, MD
Sai Madhuri Pentyala-Mavilla, MD
Janet Koeun Shin, MD
Carlos A. Vega, MD

Department of Medicine

Pediatric Rheumatology

Meghan Ashley Crippen, MD
Caitlin Ashleigh Ensor, MD

Primary Care Sports Medicine

McKenna Ray Campbell-Potter, MD

Rheumatology

Brandon Justin Blau, MD
Romy S. Kallas, MD
Jonathan Emanuel Thaler, MD, MSc

Department of Neurology

Neuromuscular Medicine

Hannah Erin Henderson, MD
Eunhye Oak, MD

Department of Psychiatry

Spine and Sports Medicine

Lindsay Arlene Burke, MD
Matthew Delbert, MD
Sarah Jane Lim, MD
Brendan William Pier, MD

Department of Radiology and Imaging

Musculoskeletal Radiology

Adam Neel Baker, MD
Cecilia Davis-Hayes, MD
Max S. Hao, MD, MS
Delaram Shakoor, MD

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Livestream

MARCH 11, 2026

Innovations in Evaluating & Treating Neck Pain An HSS Journal® Webinar

Adults seek care for neck pain, one of the top contributors to disability worldwide, from various clinicians. Join our interdisciplinary panel experts as they discuss best practices in evaluating and managing patients with neck pain. Topics will include the implementation of the latest clinical practice guidelines, as well as the use of innovations in treatment such as medial branch radiofrequency ablation. Register at bit.ly/eval-treat-neck-pain

Onsite or Livestream

MAY 15, 2026

Contemporary Topics in Scleroderma

Scleroderma is a rare, complex autoimmune connective tissue disease characterized by fibrosis, vasculopathy, and immune dysregulation. Early recognition and therapy benefits patients, particularly related to internal organ involvement, such as pulmonary arterial hypertension and interstitial lung disease, and digital ischemia. Join us to learn about evidence-based approaches to systemic sclerosis (SSc), including novel, emerging treatments. Register at bit.ly/cont-topics-sclero



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