

Beyond the Bone

2023 Graduation



Winter 2023

Table of Contents

- 3** Message from the Chair
- 5** Focus on Faculty
- 6** News & Updates
- 12** Research News
- 14** Awards and Accolades
- 15** School Ties
- 16** Resident Spotlight
- 20** Resident News
- 22** Graduation 2023
- 24** Tiger Bones Feature
- 26** Tiger Bones Spotlight

Acknowledgments

Writer: Elizabeth Hofheinz

Photographer: Jeremy Schroth

Contributors: Vinod Dasa, MD
Linda Flot
Andy King, MD
Jeffrey Sketchler, MD
Patrick Suwak, MD
Robert Zura, MD

Design and Layout: Design the Planet

Message from the Chair

Robert D. Zura, MD



The world—and the LSU orthopedic department—is leveling out and finding a way forward after the chaos that was COVID-19. The global pandemic took so much out of everyone that for a while, we became accustomed to that heightened state of uncertainty. Now, however, we are on a steady trajectory of growth and are pleased to be celebrating our residents, faculty, staff, and alumnae.

Our resident selection process is evolving under the direction of Drs. Mike Hartman and Carter Clement. Part of the reason we are undertaking this change is that we are getting less actionable information on residency candidates. Step one of the boards, which we traditionally been used to determine a residency applicant's capacity to grasp and apply fundamental concepts, has moved to a pass/fail system. This means we are left with discrete data that is less analyzable, rendering the process more challenging.

In addition, we have a strong desire for our program to be more diverse, thus more closely resembling our city and state. Drs. Marrero, Cohen-Rosenblum, and Bhandutia are guiding us as we take a more holistic approach to resident selection, something that will over time change the landscape of orthopedics. Lastly, while we are on track to grow the residency program, it is a multiyear process.

While we have not added faculty over the last year, we are celebrating the promotions of Anna

Cohen-Rosenblum to Associate Professor and Olivia Lee to Clinical Associate Professor.

Our alumnae continue to support us in many ways, in part via those involved in Tiger Bones. Their work in getting residents to conferences is fantastic and gives young surgeons the chance to network, do presentations, and learn from some of the best surgeons across the world.

Also on the alumnae front, we have pulled together a group of young graduates, led by Dr. Kirk Jeffers (class of 2020), who have committed to becoming more involved in the program. They are establishing a rotating schedule whereby they give lectures on issues related to early career development.

Due to the transformational thinking of our new President and CEO, John Nickens, M.D., we have a clear and innovative path forward. Dr. Nickens, who has built an exceptional team, has energized University Medical Center, and made it truly feel like we are on track to be the leading academic institution on the Gulf Coast.

Thanks to our CMO, Dr. Bill Killinger, an expert in reimagining hospital processes, our goals and aspirations of continuing to improve patient care

Message from the Chair

CONTINUED

are coming to fruition. He is helping us as we train the best medical students and residents, all while improving efficiency and keeping an eye on cost and quality.

As for research activities, we are beginning to see the culmination of Dr. Jessica Rivera's contributions to growing the research department. As part of her work with both DoD and PCORI funded multi-site clinical trials, several publications have come to fruition including the PREP-IT trial published in *The Lancet* on surgical scrub procedures and the PREVENT CLOT trial published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on blood clot prevention after orthopaedic trauma. This fall she will be starting two DoD-funded studies, one clinical trial and one translational animal study, both of which are focused on bone infection. We are also highlighting the work of Dr. Andrew Chapple, Director of Biostatistics for the department, who has been invaluable in enhancing how we design clinical trials.

We have had a number of distinguished visiting lecturers, including Dr. Adam Starr, the Hansjörg Wyss Distinguished Professor in Orthopaedic Trauma at UT Southwestern Medical Center, who is renowned for developing minimally invasive treatments for fractures of the pelvis. Dr. Starr was our guest at graduation and gave an incredible lecture on keeping your cool...and he is enjoying his LSU bat after the Tigers' CWS win!

Things are going well as residents rotate through our Baton Rouge site at Our Lady of the Lake and with BROCC. Dr. Rubacha left Lafayette for family reasons, but the faculty there have rallied, and our residents continue to love the rotation.

At President Tate's direction, and with an OLOL investment in student health and sports medicine, we are designing a sports science center in Baton Rouge. Also instrumental in this project are Keli Zinn, Executive Deputy Athletic Director

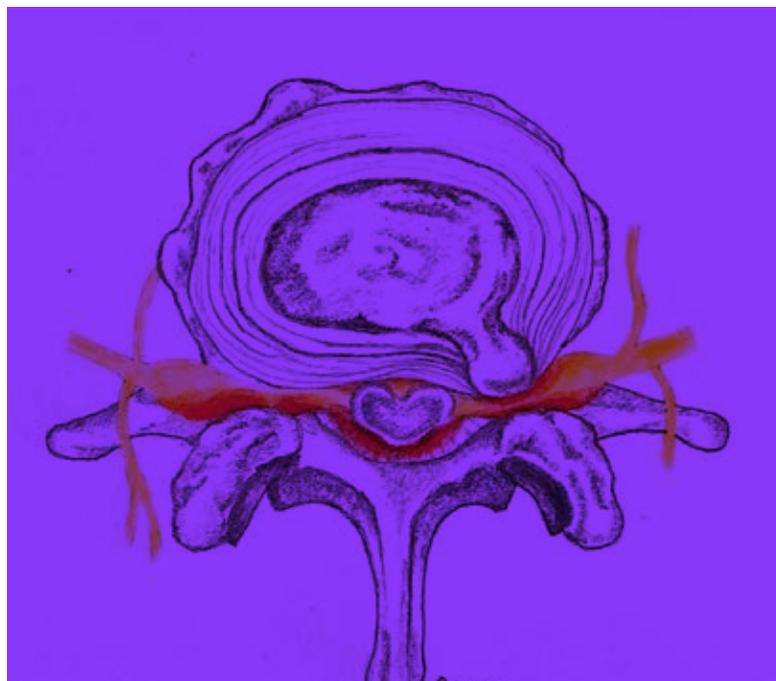
and Chief Operating Officer for LSU Athletics, Shelly Mullenix, Sr., Associate AD/Health and Wellness, Neil Johannsen, the Robert and Patricia Hines Endowed Professor in the LSU School of Kinesiology, Hollis (Bud) O'Neal, M.D., M.Sc., and Katie O'Neal, M.D., CMO of Lady of the Lake. At this point we are starting to build the research infrastructure as we undertake renovations to the existing building and plan for expansion. The funding has been secured and the leadership is in place.

In fact, the entire department is in a new place... our offices have moved to the Center for Advanced Learning and Simulation (CALs), an ultramodern facility that will be the bedrock for our training and academic endeavors going forward. Hope to see you at research day there next year!

The search is ongoing for LSU Health's next chancellor and as we move into the next year, I would like to commend our department's staff and faculty...they have maintained a strong dedication to the program despite numerous challenges and what feels like constant change.

Robert D. Zura, MD

Robert D'Ambrosia Professor & Chair
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
LSU Health Science Center New Orleans



Focus on Faculty



FEATURING

Christopher Marrero, M.D.

A native New Orleanian, Dr. Christopher Marrero is not only healing bones, but also making efforts to heal a city. Dr. Marrero, a Clinical Associate Professor at LSUHSC, attended Xavier University as an undergraduate and then went to Howard University College of Medicine. He later completed an orthopedic residency at Martin Luther King, Jr. / Charles R. Drew Medical Center in Los Angeles.

“I returned from California and joined my father in private practice here in New Orleans for seven years until Katrina hit. For the subsequent four years, I had a private practice in Port Arthur, Texas and was then recruited to LSU in 2009.”

Dr. Marrero, the Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) officer for the department, is pleased with the strides LSUHSC is making. “When I arrived, the department and its activities had shrunk due to Katrina. Over time, however, we have increased our faculty, expanded our research output, and increased the program’s diversity—but we still have work to do.”

One of those research endeavors is shedding light on the city’s problem with gun violence. “Just recently we published an article on the economic costs of gun violence. I did several interviews about our work and an article was published in the Times Picayune as well. Over four years—from 2016 to

2019—gun violence resulted in a net loss of \$20 million, which had to be subsidized by the state. And that amount was solely for the initial hospital visits...that does not include any type of follow up appointments, readmissions, or rehabilitation.”

What is particularly frustrating, says Dr. Marrero, is that the gun violence is largely preventable and is standing in the way of progress elsewhere. “Because so many of these patients are uninsured or insured by Medicaid, it means their care is funded by tax dollars. This is critical funding that is not going towards schools, roads, etc. so it affects everyone.”

Now that the program has more of a DEI ethos, the admissions process is also evolving. Dr. Marrero, who sits on the admissions committee for the medical school and the residency selection committee for the department, notes, “We have not only standardized our approach, but we have also made it more holistic. Now, we look deeper than scores and grades and reflect on the person’s breadth of experience, research, and community service.”

Indeed, says Dr. Marrero, people are attracted to the LSU program because of the diverse patient population and practice environments. “Our trainees have a unique experience as we have



Focus on Faculty CONTINUED

a wide variety of pathologies from urban and rural environments. Our residents also get an extraordinary amount of early operative experience with more autonomy than at other training programs.”

Dr Marrero is unique in being a general orthopaedist in an academic setting. “I have always enjoyed teaching, which made the transfer from private practice to an academic setting reinvigorating. I enjoy being on the cutting edge of orthopaedics and constantly learning and being challenged. The residents at University Medical Center appreciate having readily available staff who can cover multiple subspecialties.”

News & Updates

Dominic Gargiulo, M.D. and Giving Back

The influence of LSU’s orthopedic department reaches many corners of the world, including—thanks to the leadership of Dominic Gargiulo, D.O. and Carter Clement, M.D.—the Dominican Republic (DR). Dr. Gargiulo, Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopedics, is on the board of the New Orleans Medical Mission Services (NOMMS) and has just completed his second trip there, along with residents and fellows, all of whom are invested in taking care of some very deserving patients. Dr. Carter Clement, Associate Clinical Professor of Orthopedics, was on his first mission this year.

“We have established a process whereby we use What’sApp to communicate with local surgeons as they are gathering cases throughout the year,” says Dr. Gargiulo. “They text us a basic history and Xrays so we can have a good idea of the cases

we will be doing. We arrive on a Saturday, get the equipment to the hospital and then Sunday we go to the clinic and create the surgical docket of cases for the week. We operate from Monday to Friday and typically do 15-20 cases.”

When the team arrived for its latest visit, the word went out...and a flood of help and cases showed up. “There were general surgeons, OBGYNs, ENTs and more. During the year we collect a ton of supplies,



stocking everything in a warehouse in Harahan until it's time to dive in and pack everything up and ready the equipment. While we leave most of what we bring, including medication, there are some things that can't be left there (surgical instruments and retractors, for example)."

As for the cases, says Dr. Gargiulo, they see a lot of trauma and deformity. "We worked on children with cerebral palsy, those who needed tendon lengthening, and a boy who was born with his fingers stuck together. This boy had undergone prior surgery to separate his fingers but the scarring from poor postop care resulted in a deformity whereby his fingers were stuck down to his palm making them essentially unusable. We were able to release the scarred tissue and straighten the fingers, something that will make a huge difference in the usefulness of the hand and quality of his life."

"We had one trauma case where a young woman had fallen off a motorcycle and then undergone ankle surgery. It was poorly fixed, however, and the bones were not straight; we removed the old hardware and then straightened and reset the bones."

"One boy with cerebral palsy had a dislocated hip and while I wanted to operate on it, it would have been too much of a risk. If there were excess blood loss or some other complication, we would have no ability to resuscitate him—we would need a larger facility. We hope to find ways to collaborate with a larger pediatric center in the future to tackle more complex cases."

As for his Dominican colleagues, Dr. Gargiulo notes, "Their surgical techniques and skill sets are every bit as good as ours here in the States...we are just fortunate enough to have some fancier equipment. What I hope to achieve with these trips are lasting relationships with the surgeons and staff in the DR as well as lasting memories and experiences for our NOMMS volunteers. We can only help so many people in a week of performing surgery but can help exponentially by providing training and equipment for specialized pediatric surgery."

Having formed enduring relationships, Dr. Gargiulo and his team can look to the future. "The biggest thing on our wish list is the equipment needed for anesthesia. Putting kids to sleep is risky and we could really use more equipment and more pediatric anesthesiologists."

On October 13, 2023, the New Orleans Medical Mission Services will hold a gala with a silent auction. To learn more—and contribute—please visit <https://www.nomms.org>.



News & Updates



Michelle Moore, Psy.D.

One's professional life is always evolving...so should the system. Such is the case with the incorporation of the Co-Chair for the Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee at the LSU School of Medicine—Dr. Michelle Moore—into the department of orthopedics.

“We are thrilled that Dr. Moore will officially be heading up our faculty development efforts in the orthopedics department,” says Dr. Zura. “An expert on learning, Dr. Moore will be an academic and wellness resource for residents and will also help facilitate our efforts to support faculty growth and development.”

“Individuals have different needs depending on where they are in the faculty life cycle,” says Dr. Moore. “To identify how best I might work with faculty, we undertook a needs assessment, which revealed that they are interested in learning more about teaching, mentorship, leadership and promotions.”

“If someone is just starting out in the department then I will help them get acclimated to the campus and resources and try to ensure that they have a smooth onboarding process—which includes beginning to integrate them into the community.”

“For someone in the early career phase, my overarching goal is to guide their advancement through the academic system, in part by ensuring that his or her CV is up to par and contains the scholarly material necessary to move through the academic ranks. In the event that mentorship is needed, I can facilitate that experience. I will also be helping physicians learn more about the research and publishing processes and can work with them to build fruitful collaborations and support.”

“The early career phase is ideal for gaining proficiencies not acquired in medical school, such as leadership and teaching skills. On the leadership front, my plan is to help faculty increase their levels of self-awareness. We will delve into behavioral styles, how they tend to react to things, and how they can improve communication with others.”

“For faculty in the mid-career period, we can focus on ways to develop their leadership and mentoring skills, as well as engage in national service activity. For most of the senior faculty, I plan to work with them on sustaining academic activity, planning for retirement, and preparing for Emeritus Status.”

Dr. Moore will be making use of a tool that has gained wide acceptance in the business world and elsewhere—the DISC (Dominance Influence Steadiness Compliance) assessment. “I am credentialed in this process and am hoping to bring it into the orthopedics department. Doing so in combination with a focus on ‘sustainable wellness’ will help us embody the six dimensions of wellness, an approach initiated by The National Wellness Institute. The six dimensions are: emotional, occupational, physical, social, intellectual, and spiritual.”

“It is wonderful that programs are beginning to address the issue of burnout, a complex problem that begins with the realization that one has indeed reached the point of physical and mental exhaustion. In some cases, people do not even know they are burned out. How can we walk them back to ideal health? How can we help them develop more resilience?”

Also pleased to have Dr. Moore onboard is Jennifer Simkin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery Wellness Officer. “We are excited to welcome Dr. Moore to the department. Her expertise in mental health and mindfulness will bolster faculty and resident development, enhance well-being and increase the overall success of the department.”

“We are very fortunate to have within our department a clinical psychologist whose focus is career development,” states Dr. Chris Marrero. “Her background in behavioral sciences will be a key resource for DEI, which directly ties into mental health and wellness.”

Having served as Co-Chair of the Junior Faculty Mentoring and Guidance Committee in the School of Medicine, Dr. Moore is well-positioned to support the orthopedic faculty as they build out their CVs. “I look forward to a collaborative relationship with my colleagues. I will be asking how their goals align with the school’s promotion guidelines and do my best to ensure that they are on track for promotion. If I am a good fit for someone then I will mentor that person; if they need someone else, however, then I will connect them to another person who will better fit their personality and/or aspirations.”

News & Updates



Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum Takes Part in AAOS 2023 Annual Meeting on Pregnancy in Orthopaedic Surgery

During the AAOS 2023 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, a panel of female orthopaedic surgeons led a discussion on the challenges associated with pregnancy in the orthopaedic profession. For the presentation, titled “The Pregnant Orthopaedic Surgeon: An Evidence-based Approach,” moderator Anna Cohen-Rosenblum, MD, MSc, was joined by copanelists Selina C. Poon, MD, MPH, FAAOS; Antonia F. Chen, MD, MBA, FAAOS; and Ayesha Abdeen, MD, FAAOS.

In Memory of Leroy Steven Bosby Jr., 1953-2023

Leroy Steven Bosby, Jr. departed this earthly life for his heavenly home on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at the age of 70.

He was a native of Mobile, AL and a resident of Avondale, LA. Leroy was a graduate of Paul L. Dunbar Junior High and Central High School, where he was a member of the “130 Mighty Marching Wildcats”. He later became a member of E.B. Coleman’s Big Band.

Leroy enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1973 and served during the Vietnam War. He received an honorable discharge in 1977. After leaving the Navy, Leroy started working at American Cyanamid which later became Cornerstone Chemical Company in Waggaman, LA. Leroy retired after 41 years of employment at Cornerstone Chemical.

Loving husband of more than fifteen years to Shawn Bosby. Devoted father of Ashley Bosby, Brandon Asberry, and Brittany Asberry. Grandfather of K’ liyah Morgan, Aubrey Green, and Armani James. Son of the late Leroy, Sr., and Anna Mary Tate Bosby. Brother of Mary Bosby Davis, Sheila Bosby Little, and the late Diane Bosby Payne; extended family of brothers and sisters Roslyn Little, Donna Echols, Tina (Vaughn) Aubert, Ann Gail (David) Traylor, Tammy (Jeff) Hart, Ricky, Michael, Craig (Anita), Steven (Rona), and Keith (Kimberly) Duronsolet. Uncle of Nikita Davis, Veishawn Payne, Brian (Donis) Davis and Rashaan Little Son-in-law Evelyn Calhoun Brown. Brother-in-law of Sim Payne. Godfather of Tameka Little, Jarvis Dennison and Ashton Tricksey, also survived by a host of other relatives, and friends.



Dr. Rivera MD Featured AAOS Article About Occupational Hazards for Female Surgeons

For AAOS Now, Editorial Board member Jessica C. Rivera, MD, PhD, FAAOS, interviewed members of the team behind these studies, Lisa K. Cannada, MD, FAAOS, and Antonia F. Chen, MD, MBA, FAAOS, to discuss the important take-home points about their recent findings, particularly

for female surgeons. Dr. Cannada is an orthopaedic surgeon for Novant Health and a clinical professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Dr. Chen is director of research in arthroplasty services at Brigham and Women's Hospital and an associate professor of orthopaedic surgery at Harvard Medical School.



Dr. Dasa Leads Study on Total Knee Arthroplasty Without Opioids

A study led by Vinod Dasa, MD, Professor of Orthopaedics at LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine, reports that a novel surgical pain management strategy following total knee arthroplasty (TKA), or total knee replacement, provided pain relief without opioids.

The researchers also found that changing prescriptions for opioids at discharge from automatic to upon request dramatically decreased opioid use. Their results are published in the Journal of Experimental Orthopaedics.

Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum Nominated for 2023 UMCNO Physician's Clinic Award

Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum has been nominated by her peers and the leadership of UMCNO for a 2023 UMCNO Physician's Clinic Award.

Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum, thank you for all that you do to promote patient-centered care in an EXTRAORDINARY manner. We appreciate you!



A Message from President Tate and Dr. Nelson

Dear LSU Health New Orleans Family, Today, we have the honor of sharing unprecedented good news. At the close of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, we are proud to say that the Louisiana State Government has invested in YOU to a magnitude unmatched in our state's history. The investment in the

LSU System for FY2024 will amount to \$232 million for all LSU campuses across the state.

There are many thanks to be given: Governor John Bel Edwards proposed a very aggressive investment plan for higher education, and the Louisiana Legislature, under the leadership of Sen. Page Cortez and Rep.

Clay Schexnayder, supported the proposal and even bolstered it in many areas. Investing in higher education is politically difficult in a state with so many needs, but our leaders believed that by investing in you and your efforts, they're shaping a stronger future for Louisiana.

We had two main goals for this session: Talent and Tools. First, through the budget, our state invested in talent by funding undergraduate and graduate students and providing support for faculty and staff. They also provided many of the tools we need to teach, attract, and retain our talent across the state. This includes funding for a \$153 million new Library in Baton Rouge, \$44 million in funding for the School of Dentistry in New Orleans, \$8 million in Alexandria for the Student Success Center, \$28.9 million in Eunice for a STEAM building, and \$26 million to complete the Center for Medical Education & Wellness in Shreveport.

In addition to the funding for the School of Dentistry, LSU Health New Orleans will also receive \$7.7 million for faculty pay adjustments, mandated costs, and base funding adjustments. The Legislature also... See: https://www.medschool.lsuohsc.edu/ortho/message_president_tate_dr_nelson.aspx

First Louisiana patient gets a 3D-printed, custom-fit cast

NEW ORLEANS — There's new medical technology to help you heal if you break a bone.

It's a 3D printed cast, that is lightweight, and designed to be fitted exactly to you. And now the first patient in Louisiana has one.

In Memory of Raymond Stewart, 1935-2023

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Mr. Raymond Stewart was born on September 28, 1935 to Horace Stewart Jr., and Louise Spears. He was the oldest of five (5) brothers: Herman, Woodrow W. Sr., Roosevelt Stewart and Joseph Washington.

Raymond was a proud 1959 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School where he studied Culinary Arts, and after graduation he worked at several hotels, mainly at the Marriot and Sheraton Hotels.

Raymond married the Love of his Life Ms. Joann Logwood and to that union two beautiful daughters were born Dana Ann Stewart and Fawn Marie "Tootie"

Stewart, after the birth of his daughters Raymond worked at the Royal Sonesta and on October 31, 2000 after 30 years of employment he decided to retire and live a quiet, peaceful and comfortable life until his health started to decline.

On May 31, 2023 our Beloved Father and grandfather accepted the Will of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and became reunited with his wife, parents, daughter, sons and siblings.

Raymond is survived by his daughter Dana Ann Stewart, brother Herman Stewart, granddaughter April Stewart, great-grandchildren Kacie M. and Dillion S. Stewart and a host of other relatives and friends.

Dr. Rivera MD Featured AAOS Article About Occupational Hazards for Female Surgeons

For AAOS Now, Editorial Board member Jessica C. Rivera, MD, PhD, FAAOS, interviewed members of the team behind these studies, Lisa K. Cannada, MD, FAAOS, and Antonia F. Chen, MD, MBA, FAAOS, to discuss the important take-home points about their recent findings, particularly for female surgeons. Dr. Cannada is an orthopaedic surgeon for Novant Health and a clinical professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Dr. Chen is director of research in arthroplasty services at Brigham and Women's **Hospital** and an associate professor of orthopaedic surgery at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Vinod Dasa Named OMC-Kenner Physician of the Quarter

DCongratulations to Dr. Vinod Dasa of the Surgery Service for being selected as OMC-Kenner's Quarterly Physician Champion! Dr. Dasa's commitment to innovative high quality patient care, education, and teamwork exemplifies our mission and the outstanding service that we want to provide here at OMC-Kenner.

Congratulations again to Dr. Dasa on his selection for this prestigious award.

LSU Ortho Doctors Highlighted by AAOS Now

Congratulations to Drs. Rutledge C. Clement, Adam L. Haydel, Bronson H. Fong, and Leland M. Van Deventer for being recognized by AAOS Now for their work in researching the best ways to bring orthopaedic care to low- and middle-income countries.

Dr. Leslie Sisco-Wise Sworn In As LOA President

Dr. Leslie Sisco-Wise was officially sworn in as the 70th President of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association during the 2023 LOA Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 4th.

Dr. Sisco-Wise holds the distinction of being the first female president elected to serve the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association.

Dr. Sisco-Wise is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with a certificate in hand surgery.

Dr. Sisco-Wise serves as the Section Head of Hand Surgery for Ochsner Health. She is the Director of the Hand and Upper Extremity Center for Ochsner Baptist Hospital in New Orleans

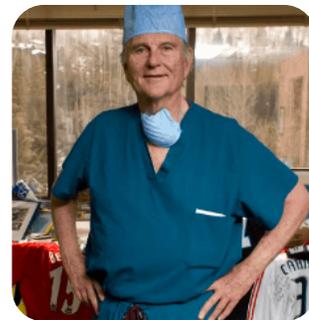
Dr. Sisco-Wise earned her medical degree from LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. She then completed her five-year orthopedic residency program at LSU Health Sciences Center. Dr. Sisco-Wise completed a one-year fellowship in hand and upper extremities at the University of California at San Francisco.

She and her husband Dr. Whit Wise are the proud parents of three children: Alton, Evans and Eleanor.

Renowned Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. J Richard Steadman Passes at 85 Years Old

Renowned Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. J Richard Steadman passed away January 20, 2023 at 85 years old. Dr. Steadman was a pioneering orthopedic surgeon who saved the careers of hundreds of Olympic skiers, Premier League soccer players, and professional golfers around the world. He developed new procedures, like microfracturing, a treatment for injuries to the anterior cruciate ligament in which small cracks are made in the underlying bone, facilitating cartilage growth and a more rapid recovery.

Dr. Steadman was widely considered one of the best orthopedic surgeons of his generation and his advancements made in Orthopedic Surgery will live on to improve orthopedic practices across the globe.



Research News



Vinod Dasa, MD - Director of Research

Research Coordinator

Basic Science



Elaine Hicks



Dr. Jennifer Simkin

The research team has been actively growing our research portfolio across a broad range of specialties. The pediatrics group has recently started monthly Friday morning research meetings to coordinate activities amongst students, residents, fellow and faculty. They are covering a lot of ground between bundle payments in scoliosis surgery to mechanical testing of novel surgical instruments. Dr. Carter and Dr. Gargiulo are taking the lead and coordinating most research efforts. Dr. Luis Marrero is spearheading a \$1 million comprehensive departmental enhancement grant to the Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF), which accepts grants annually to enhance higher education, research infrastructure, interdepartmental collaborations, and the state's economic development.

Our big data team led By Dr. Andrew Chapple and Dr. Peter Krause has developed partnerships with some of the world's leading databases ranging from the American joint replacement registry to ReachNet. Our big data team has approx. 5 ongoing projects with another about to start and a dozen projects in the queue.

The LSU orthopedics faculty collectively had the second highest number of faculty research mentors at the 20th Annual Medical Student Research Symposium on October 23, 2023 behind general surgery despite having 75% fewer faculty than general surgery.

We have 2 student research fellows this year. Braden De Lanzac has been working in the pediatric track and focusing his work with Dr. Clement at CHNOLA on a variety of pediatric projects. Sylvia Culpepper has been working in the basic science track with Dr. Simkin on traumatic tissue regeneration and osteo progenitor cells. We have also developed a 3rd research track that will focus on research needs at UMC and trauma.

Vinod Dasa, MD

Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics
Director of Research

Meet the Research Team

Basic Science

Clinician Scientist

Statistician and Data Analysis

Project Development and Manuscript Preparation

Data Science



Dr. Luis Marrero

Dr. Jessica Rivera

Dr. Claudia Leonardi

Dr. Amy Bronstone

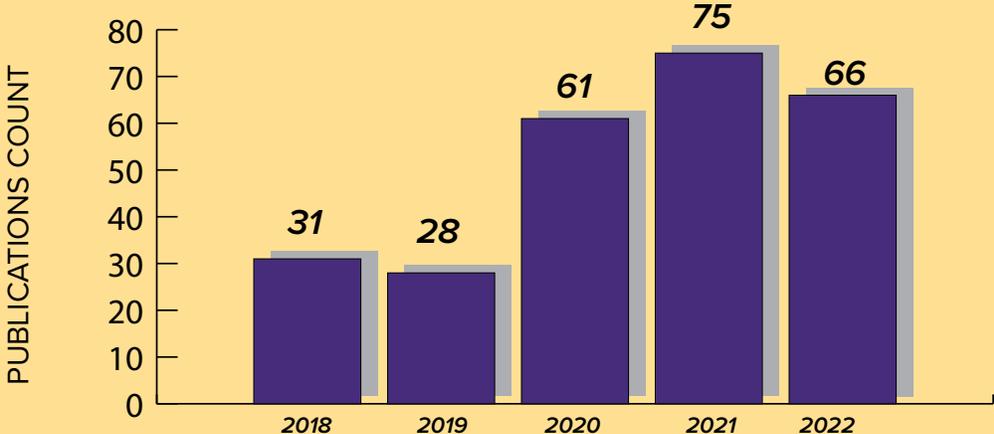
Dr. Andrew Chapple

Student research committee leadership: Tara Korbal and Robby Branstetter

Please visit the research section of the department website for more detailed information.



Publications over past 5 years:



Awards & Accolades

Awards 2023 Winners

Jack Winter's Award Patrik Suwak, DO



Orthopaedics In-Training Award Scott A. Barnett, MD



King Award Stuart P. Schexnayder, MD



Rooney Award Rasheed Ahmad, MD

D 'Ambrosia Award Adam J. Starr, MD

Research Speaker Award Anna Cohen-Rosenblum, MD



Award Categories:

Jack Winter's Award – Graduating resident with the best research

Orthopaedics In-Training Award – Graduating resident who has the highest In-Training Score Averaged over 4 years (PGY2-5 year of training)

King Award – Teaching award given to resident / Named after Dr. Andrew King (Emeritus Professor & Past Chairman for the Department of Orthopaedics)

Rooney Award – Teaching award given to Faculty / Named after Dr. Ronald Rooney (Former Faculty and advisor/mentor to residents & students)

D 'Ambrosia Award – Given to Guest Speaker for Graduation & Research Day / Named after Dr. Robert D. D' Ambrosia (Former Chairman for the Department of Orthopaedics, lectureship/ research day named in his honor for his longstanding contribution to the program)

Research Speaker Award – Given to Research Faculty Speaker

School Ties

Welcome to the LSU Orthopaedics Family!

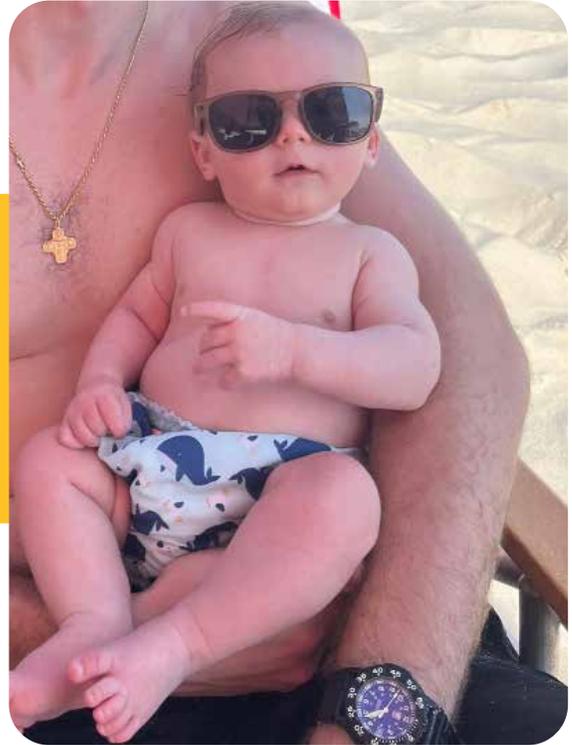
Births

Christopher Bloise - PGY2
May 4, 2023

Charles Joseph Bloise

7 lbs 8 oz

Congratulation to Christopher and Kelsey
Bloise



Matthew Darlow - PGY5
May 29, 2023

Hannah Faye Darlow

4 lbs 12 oz

Congratulations to
Matthew and Sarah
Darlow



Resident Spotlight



FEATURING

Matthew Darlow, M.D.

PGY-5 Matthew Darlow, a Houstonian by birth, chose not to follow in the footsteps of his parents, both attorneys. His familiarity with medicine began early on when he was able to shadow a general surgeon in high school. “I fell in love with the procedural aspects of the OR...it was very exciting!”

“One day the surgeon said, ‘OK, if you feel squeamish, take a step back from the surgical field’—I immediately took a few steps forward!”

Traveling East to Duke University, Darlow majored in neuroscience and discovered a love of the brain and spine.

“I then attended medical school at UT Houston, which was a trauma-heavy program that afforded me a fair amount of ER time. As I began to see orthopedic cases, I was fascinated...here was someone who had a horrible time one day and was up and walking the next.”

And what was particularly intriguing about the spine? “The anatomy of the spine is so complex...there is this intricate relationship with the spinal cord and isn’t it just amazing how this ‘bag of noodles’ controls what we can do with our bodies? As a spine surgeon you have a great opportunity to get patients back to living nearly symptom-free.”

During his search for an orthopedic residency, Dr. Darlow knew one thing...he wasn’t going North. “I can’t stand the cold, so that ruled out a lot of places. When I came to interview at LSU, I was struck by how seamlessly the residents and faculty worked together.”

“During my first year I got to do a scoliosis case with Dr. Andrew King, which set the tone for a very hands-on residency. Unfortunately, COVID hit at the end of that year so everything shut down. I was on trauma at the beginning of my 2nd year (2020), and fortunately Dr. Abhishek Kumar let me get very involved in the OR.”

“During my 3rd year I traveled to other sites around Louisiana and began to develop more autonomy and experience in the OR. In some rotations, we are the only provider in the whole state, which is startling. We see so many people who have not been to a doctor in years and, for example, have been dealing with a broken ankle for 10 years and have a terrible deformity. The LSU residents take pride in caring for these patients...it is very rewarding.”

“In my 4th year, I had the added responsibility of making my own schedule...and instead of taking as much trauma call, I am the person who stays at home and is called by junior residents for guidance. I find this to be very meaningful and have learned that I enjoy some aspects of teaching, i.e., helping someone understand why they do what they do and then see them perform the task.”

In his 5th year as of June 30th, Dr. Darlow says he is in a transition phase. “Yes, it’s exciting but also a bit scary because the oversight will soon be coming to an end. I am almost done, and yet it wasn’t long ago that I was first starting.”

“LSU has been a profound, life-altering experience. I entered as an inexperienced, wide-eyed intern and am leaving as a competent, prepared orthopedic surgeon with great practical experience in caring for patients with complicated issues in a variety of subspecialties.”

When he heads for his spine fellowship at Florida Orthopaedic Institute (FOI) in a few months, Dr. Darlow will carry the LSU experience with him. “Honestly, I couldn’t imagine better place to train!”



FEATURING

Charles Hansen, M.D.

Hailing from Sulphur, Louisiana, PGY-5 resident Dr. Charles Hansen, is an LSU Medical School alumnus who made his way to orthopedic surgery via, construction and, well, fidgeting.

“I not only did woodworking and played sports, but I built things on a farm, and I was accustomed to power tools. Orthopedics is essentially woodworking minus the risk of a table saw taking one of your digits. In addition, my extreme ADHD automatically ruled out any future career in medicine because I can’t sit still and write notes all day. I need to be moving and solving problems in order to stay focused, so the OR was a great fit.”

“I have been so pleased that the LSU staff work very well together. And the autonomy that we are given early on is unusual and thrilling. We see a wide variety of complex patients, many whose medical issues are exacerbated by problems with Medicaid, transportation, etc. I am confident that when LSU orthopedic residents get out into the ‘real world’ there aren’t many things that we have not already seen or at least know how to handle.”

“There have been so many examples of complex

patients throughout my residency—complex in the case itself and in the social factors postoperatively. Often, fractures are old by the time they finally show up to clinic; they can be challenging but the complexity of the cases just prepares you to handle any fracture.”

Asked about his most memorable time at LSUHSC he notes, “It was once when Dr. Zura yelled at me in the OR (I 100% deserved it) and then without any resentment went right back to operating and teaching me how to fix whatever fracture we were fixing. I responded well to that and knew he was going to make me a great surgeon!”

“I will soon be heading for an adult reconstruction fellowship in Wisconsin,” says Dr. Hansen. “And because of the training here, I will be prepared for anything.”

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS

School of Medicine

Department of
Orthopaedics

Resident Spotlight



FEATURING

Marc Schatz, M.D.

Marc Schatz, M.D., a PGY-5 originally from Cooper City, Florida, arrived at LSU after completing medical school at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.

And what motivated Dr. Schatz to select orthopedics? Motivated patients!

“Not only do I enjoy the hands-on aspects of surgery, but I love that orthopedic patients tend to be among the most motivated patients you could ever want, meaning that treatment is not an uphill battle.”

Intensely interested in the biomechanical aspects of musculoskeletal care, Dr. Schatz is undertaking new research on ankle fractures and early weight bearing. “We have a lot of Medicaid patients who don’t have the luxury of taking time off from work. These folks could end up losing their jobs and/or homes. In the past, we instructed foot and ankle patients to stay off their injured leg up to three months after surgery. However, we noticed that with our fixation, if we repaired the ligaments, patients were usually able to get back to weight bearing at two weeks. We are examining data from 300 of our patients to ensure that this is safe and that patients are compliant with



our instructions.”

Another intriguing topic, says Dr. Schatz, is the

ongoing debate about what to do when a fracture does not heal. “There is no specific protocol to follow when a fracture doesn’t heal—other than finding the origin of the problem. We are using a multicenter database to look at what makes those fractures different and how we might prevent them.”

Having done his due diligence on LSU’s orthopedic program, Dr. Schatz noted, “I spoke with several current and prior residents who were quick to say that trainees are allowed a lot of autonomy in the

OR. I noticed that there was a high level of trust in the attendings, as well as an unusual degree of camaraderie in the program.”

“I firmly believe that the faculty and staff are devoted to our education—there is no, ‘Just go look in a textbook’ kind of attitude. We have a world-class lab with every tool imaginable, as well as space for

10-12 cadavers at the same time. Those running the lab are dedicated to ensuring that the lab is properly maintained and that we can obtain additional equipment or vendor-specific items when necessary.”

“When on rotation in Lafayette or Baton Rouge we have the unique opportunity of nearly running a practice on our own, deciding which cases to book, and what types of treatment to use. Yes, we are supervised, but this resident-run service is an unparalleled growth experience.”

Dr. Schatz, who is slated to do a fellowship at Campbell Clinic Orthopaedics, has advice for medical students. “Give LSU a thorough look because while the program may not initially grab your attention, frankly, there is no way to properly describe the experience it offers. You just have to rotate here and see for yourself how comfortable the residents are in the OR, and how we succeed in handling very complicated cases.”





FEATURING

Jestin Williams, M.D.

Nashville native Dr. Jestin Williams, a PGY-5 resident, was introduced to medicine early in life thanks to an injury...and his mother—a pediatrician. “Like many people, I found my way toward musculoskeletal medicine via a sports injury.”

But a broken thumb wasn’t going to stop Williams.

“I played multiple sports in high school and at one point broke my thumb. The doctor said he could fix it, but I would be out for the remainder of the season. I played for three-quarters of the season with a broken thumb, and then had surgery and had it casted. It was around this time that because of my mom’s physician friends, I was able to shadow orthopedic surgeons.”

After attending Alcorn State University in Mississippi on a football scholarship, Williams returned to Nashville for his M.D., matriculating at Meharry Medical College in Nashville.

“During medical school I developed an interest in spine as well as oncology, so I formulated a plan to do a fellowship in each one. The appeal of oncology is that you get to operate all over the body; as for spine, the appeal was the ability to handle degenerative cases and trauma situations. Hips and knees are also in the mix as there are times when a tumor has eroded through the bone, and you must remove the bone and essentially do a hip or knee replacement.”

Already accepted into an oncology fellowship, Dr. Williams is now applying for a spine fellowship. “I primarily want to be a spine oncologist rather than the other way around. I have always enjoyed the more complex cases. I like challenging my fundamental skills and knowledge in creating creative solutions to varied complex surgical tactics and patient care. In the field of spine surgery, spine oncology has stood out for me as an area that employs those challenges and fosters intricate thinking with uncommon surgical techniques. In continuing my development into a spinal oncologist, next year I will be starting the MD Anderson Musculoskeletal Oncology Fellowship to enhance my medical and surgical knowledge of orthopaedic tumors.”

So how did he land at LSUHSC?

“I rotated here as a medical student, and I loved it because the camaraderie is far better than other programs I have seen. I would say that it’s a blue-collar place that holds a lot of academic prestige as well. All services are well represented here, which is terrific because some programs don’t offer enough tumor or foot and ankle experience. When I rotated here it was incredibly busy, but everyone remained upbeat and did not let a hectic residency experience tear them down.”

And the lagniappe, says Dr. Williams, is the freedom residents are accorded.

“LSU is phenomenal in that residents are allowed to get early operative experience. And the relationship with our attendings is unique because while they are professionals, they are also very approachable. It’s the only place I know of that allows residents to reach out to device reps. This is great training because in the real world you have to interact with the reps.”

So does he find anything difficult about the program? “I think it’s hard to see so many patients in need. We see a lot of people who, for whatever reason, have neglected wounds. On one occasion I have even seen maggots in external fixators.”



Resident News



LSU Orthopaedic Residents and Faculty Participate in Trauma Grand Rounds and Anatomy Lab with Dr. Michael Beltran

On November 17th 2023 LSU Orthopaedics Residents and Faculty participated in the Trauma Grand Rounds and Anatomy Lab with a presentation from guest professor Dr. Michael Beltran from the University of Cincinnati on the topic of extreme nailing. In the words of Dr. Krause “The day was a huge success.”



Graduating PGY5 Assists National Title Winning LSU Baseball Team

Huge congratulations to the LSU Baseball Team for their remarkable victory in the College World Series on June 26! On top of that, graduating PGY5

Stuart Schexnayder had the opportunity to assist and care for the team in the dugout as an LSU Resident.

Congrats to our 2024 Fellowship Matches



Justin Williams
Specialty: Oncology
The University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

Marc Schatz
Specialty: Sports Medicine
Campbell Clinic
Orthopaedics

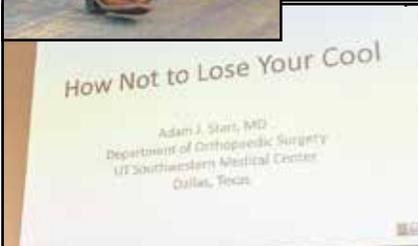


Charles Hansen
Specialty: Adult
Reconstruction
School of Medicine and
Public Health University of
Wisconsin-Madison

Matthew Darlow
Specialty: Spine
Florida Orthopaedic
Institute



Research Day



Graduation 2023

Left to Right



Scott Barnett, MD

Joseph H. Boyes Hand Fellowship - University Southern California, Keck School of Medicine

Rocio Crabb, MD

Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy Fellowship - Hoag Orthopedic Institute: Orange County, CA

Stuart Schexnayder, MD

Houston Sports Medicine and Shoulder Fellowship - University of Texas Health Science Center; Houston, TX

Patrik Suwak, MD

Twin Cities Spine Center John H. Moe Spine Fellowship - Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, MN

Welcome 2023 New Residents



Jonathan Abraham
Texas Tech University
HSC School of Medicine



Rebecca Blair
Quillen College of
Medicine, East Tennessee
State University



Katelynn Donnelly
LSU School of Medicine,
New Orleans



Irfan Khan
FIU Herbert Wertheim
College of Medicine



Tiger Bones

Tiger of the Year

Kenneth Adatto, M.D.



Left to Right

Edward Yeilding (grandson in law - married to Alexandra)

Madeleine Adatto (granddaughter)

Henry Freeman (great grandson) - behind him Cooper

Velie (grandson)

Ella Freeman (granddaughter)

Kenneth Adatto, M.D.

Be-Be Adatto (my wife) - behind her - **Ellis Adatto**

(grandson)

Andrew Freeman (grandson)

Scott Freeman (grandson)

Alexandra Freeman Yeilding (granddaughter)

Tiger of the Year Recipient Kenneth Adatto, M.D.

Truth be told, Kenneth “Touchdown” Adatto, M.D. has had too many titles and honors to mention. When he stepped back from the OR eight years ago, he had accumulated nearly 50 years as an orthopedic surgeon. Dr. Adatto, who attended UVA as an undergraduate, went on to medical school at LSU, finishing in 1968.

“When I was a junior medical student, I particularly enjoyed the surgical rotation at Touro and got my first exciting taste of orthopedics. I would say that sick people make us (orthopedic surgeons) nervous...we like to go from point A to point B!”

The following year, Dr. Adatto got an idea of how to manage chaos when he did an internship—and then a full orthopedic residency—at Charity Hospital. “Charity was a war zone at all times. Bar fights, stabbings, stabs, low-grade mobster knee shots...you name it. And the stories, oh my goodness. One guy claimed he was sitting in his bathtub reading a Bible when someone shot a gun through his window. Another guy swore than a cookie jar sliced him up (the Xray revealed no cookie fragments). Never a dull moment!”

When he found himself in the hand clinic one day, Dr. Adatto was intrigued. “We were seeing people come back from Vietnam with a variety of hand issues and we needed more people to help them. I left for Kleinert & Kutz in Louisville, Kentucky in 1973, essentially doing a hand fellowship during my residency.”

“Dr. Harold E. Kleinert traveled to China because they were reattaching fingers without the aid of a microscope. He brought back several techniques, including how to repair a digital artery, and published on some of them.”

The longest serving member of the orthopedic admissions committee, Dr. Adatto insists on fairness. “We must keep an ethos of objectivity and indeed we have turned down children of the heads of departments. A good MCAT score, and a solid GPA will get you in the door, but the rest is revealed in the interview process.”

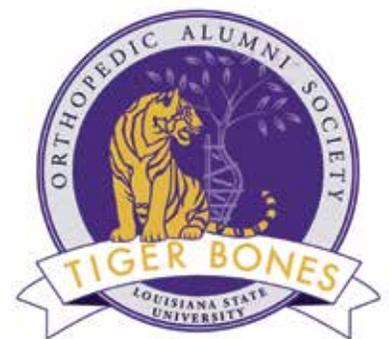
Stating that his “BS meter” is firing on all cylinders, Dr. Adatto looks for heart when interviewing candidates. “You have to be a decent human being in order to be a good doctor. Some people exaggerate their experiences...I want to know the nitty gritty of your life that made you want to become a physician. We instruct applicants not to prepare for the interview because it makes them stiff...we also look for any type of leadership experience in their background.”

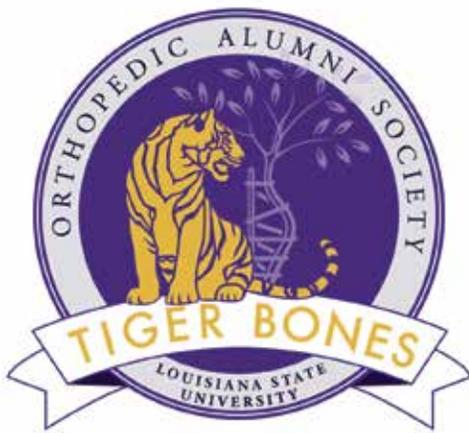
Best Clinical Faculty of the Year (awarded by students), Alumnus of the Year, Past President of the LSU School of Medicine Alumni Board...these are just a few of his accolades. Dr. Adatto also was instrumental in the founding of the LSUHSC Foundation, an organization that is demonstrating great success in raising funds for the medical school. “I also raise funds for UVA and serve on several boards at that institution. My wife and I have established the University of Virginia Echols Scholar Program Funding—the Adatto Merit Scholarship, a Jefferson Scholarship, and the Adatto Merit Scholarship at LSU Medical School.”

“I am proud of the fact that no matter who you are in Louisiana, you can get orthopedic care. To expand our offerings, students and established surgeons can receive excellent orthopedic mass casualty training at the new Center Advanced Learning Simulation (CALs).”

Nicknamed “Touchdown” by his granddaughter for his enthusiastic game-viewing, Dr. Adatto was an official NFL Second Opinion M.D. He and his wife Be-Be celebrate often with their daughters Aimee and Katherine, their son Bradford, and their seven grandchildren.

And his hopes for LSU orthopedics? “I hope we keep Bob Zura. He has done a superb job of rebuilding the department and has a keen sense of how to pull in terrific people who broaden the strengths of the program.”





Tiger Bones Banquet

The Annual Tiger Bones Fund Raising Dinner will be held on Friday March 15, 2024.

This is the Friday of the LOA Meeting in New Orleans. Details on location and registration information will be sent out beginning in early January.

We are looking forward to another successful event.

Tiger Bones

Ticket Reservations

\$500 per couple
(\$250 per person)

Sponsorship Levels

\$1,000 - Bronze

\$2,500 - Silver

\$3,500 - Gold

\$5,000 - Diamond

\$10,000 - Platinum

We are grateful for those who have supported Tiger Bones, the Resident Educational LSU Orthopaedic Resident Fund. Your generosity benefits the LSU Orthopaedic Residency Training Program – having a direct impact on its residents through expanded access to training experiences, technology updates, and educational opportunities that are necessary in a residency training program.

Your online donation can be made at
<https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/tigerbones>



OR please mail your check made payable to:

LSU Tiger Bones
c/o LSU Health Foundation
2000 Tulane Avenue, 4th Floor

Questions: 504-568-5717

We thank you for your generous support!

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS

School of Medicine

Department of
Orthopaedics