

# Beyond the Bone

2022



2021



2020



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# Message from the Chair



*Robert D. Zura, MD*

**A**fter an unavoidable two-year hiatus, I am delighted to be able to welcome back readers of the LSU Department of Orthopaedic Surgery newsletter. For the past two years, it has seemed that the elephant in the room—COVID-19—didn't just stand there...it cut a swath through everything in its path. And, as we emerge from the global pandemic, it is important to acknowledge the past and showcase our current and future activities.

Much as with Hurricane Katrina, with the pandemic, our orthopaedic program has withstood the large and small effects of a very trying crisis. Whereas some of us in the department recovered fairly well from COVID, one of our team lost multiple members of her family to the virus. The reality is that it's been a difficult couple of years, and we've been hunkered down.

I would like to say how exceedingly proud I am of our faculty, residents, students, and staff. The pandemic has been unsettling and draining, and each day, I watched our people show up and do their very best for our patients and our learners.

As for how the situation has impacted our residency program, it has hit case volumes at UMC pretty hard. Elective cases are down, however trauma is up, as is the situation all around the country. Frankly, the violence feels more violent. Despite this, I commend our residents for how hard they have kept working. And, our partners

in Baton Rouge and Lafayette deserve credit for once again saving the day (our elective volume rebounded there quickly).

On the research front, things are progressing very well with Drs. Vin Dasa, Jennifer Simkin, Luis Marrero, and Jessica Rivera making great headway with their various projects, and our whole team is advancing our work on health disparities. Specifically, Dr. Rivera has garnered grants on trauma, inflammation, and novel pain pathways totaling more than \$3M in the last year. Drs. Marrero and Dasa are working on targeting arthralgia in knee osteoarthritis via non-psychoactive cannabinoid mechanisms, and Drs. Rivera and Simkin are studying intraosseous antibiotic for point of care wound prophylaxis. In addition, Dr. Dasa is heading up our student clinical project team, which has published groundbreaking results ranging from opioid-free total knee replacements to health disparities research. Dr. Chris Marrero's recent work on gunshot violence and costs has garnered significant local press, and Dr. Rivera has recently published in *Lancet*.

Our resident selection process is in significant evolution. We continue to focus on bringing the very brightest and best diverse candidates. USMLE step 1 is pass/fail now and Dr. Hartman and his team are working to adjust to this major change. Drs. Clement and Marrero and Linda

# Message from the Chair

## CONTINUED

Flot visited Yale to identify best current practices in residency selection and we are working to incorporate some of their ideas in a manner best for LSU.

Other changes include our move from 1542 Tulane Avenue to a beautifully remodeled Interim Hospital. The new space includes new offices (on the 7th floor), a magnificent gym, massive simulation areas, and a meeting center with indoor and outdoor spaces. We hope to hold our research day here next June 23! Dr. Adam Starr from UT Southwestern will be our guest. We continue to be supported by our alumni group, Tiger Bones. The coffers remain full as COVID significantly impacted our residents' ability to travel. We are already seeing a return to normal activities this year, and Tiger Bones is supporting our residents' return to the national meeting stage. We celebrate Dr. Mark Juneau and Tiger Bones in this issue and Welcome Dr. Sketchler as the new head of Tiger Bones.

We said goodbye to Michael Heffernan, who left for sunny southern California. We hired a new world class spine surgeon – Dr. Amit Bhandutia. Dr. Jessica Rivera, a deformity and osteomyelitis expert, has joined us as our first MD/PhD and clinician scientist. Rounding out the team are our new physician assistants, Kaycie Fontenot Setliff and Haley Baudoin-Willem.

We look forward to turning the page and landing on a fruitful—and less stressful—2023!

### ***Robert D. Zura, MD***

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





## Focus on Faculty

was Dr. Robert D'Ambrosia, who had recently been appointed chair of orthopaedic surgery at LSU New Orleans. He was starting a spine fellowship and asked if I was interested. He said, 'You would have a wonderful experience in New Orleans because you would be doing a fellowship that is half pediatrics and half adult spine surgeries. The following summer my first wife and I moved to steaming hot New Orleans, where we took up residence in a Tonti apartment in Fat City. This was all rather unappealing to her, and she packed her bags for New York.'

### FEATURING **Andy King, M.D.**

"I could not have had a better career," says Andrew King, M.D., Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery & G. Dean MacEwen Chair in Orthopaedic Medicine at LSU.

Dr. King, a pioneering Kiwi by birth, attended medical school in his native New Zealand and then signed up for an overseas experience. "My then-wife was dying to get off our tiny island at the bottom of the world, so I obliged and got a job as the senior registrar at the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital in Exeter, County Devon, England.

Although initially disappointed because he wanted to be in London, Dr. King eventually changed his mind, saying, "In retrospect it was the best orthopaedic 'finishing school' I could have attended. The hospital covered all cold orthopaedics for the county. I had no call. I did almost 100 'Exeter' total hip surgeries in the year." "The British Orthopaedic Society meeting was held in Exeter that year, and I met four young orthopaedic surgeons from America who were ABC Traveling Fellows. One of them

A chance meeting at Cajun dancing night at the Maple Leaf on Oak street would set the stage for the next phase of Dr. King's life. "A young lady named Carey was in our large group that night and when she heard I was divorced she asked friends to set us up. Our first date was to go and see the Neville Brothers at Tipitina's. For some reason I was under the impression they were an a cappella college group...well, they blew me away!"

Carey, a talented artist who was studying at the New Orleans Academy of Fine Arts, soon became a fixture in Dr. King's life. "While we were dating, she won a scholarship to attend the UNC Master of Fine Arts program. I drove her there with a UHaul in tow...but after one year there I missed her terribly and proposed to her on the balcony of Lucky Pierre's, a former bordello. Her response? 'It's about time!'"

Soon came their first son, Hunter, followed by Alexandra Adair 'Ally' and then Calder.

"Hunter attended Wesleyan in Connecticut and has settled into being a DJ at WTUL radio station and a stay-at-home dad to his young son, Robin.



# Focus on Faculty CONTINUED

Ally attended the University of Pennsylvania, then went on to Tulane for law school. She now spends most of her time keeping up with her identical twin boys. As for Calder, although we rolled our eyes a lot due to the number of school notes we received about his not completing homework, he has 'landed' in a good place. After a year at the University of Boulder he returned to New Orleans to study graphic design at Loyola. Now he works at SeaCave, a video arcade and restaurant in the 7th ward...he is our maverick."

But, back to Dr. King's other love—orthopaedics.

"Dr. D'Ambrosia had set up one of the first orthopaedic spine programs in the state, with all full-time academics—prior to that, the program was run through a private practitioner's office. At that time, the residents looked after Charity Hospital, and Dr. D'Ambrosia had it set up so that each faculty member had a different specialty. I told him

spine and pediatrics. Dr. D'Ambrosia sent me to St. Jude (now Ochsner Kenner) and things really picked up. At the end of my first year at Kenner, I was surprised to be told I had brought more funds into the hospital than any other provider.

With his passions equally divided between pediatric and adult spine care, Dr. King came to the realization that he needed to choose. "The new chair at Children's Hospital, G. Dean McEwen, M.D., was the most famous pediatric orthopaedic surgeon in the world at the time. He basically gave me an ultimatum, saying that I had to decide between pediatrics or adult spine. It was a time of great change and evolution of spine care for scoliosis, and I was lucky to be a part of it."

"In my career, I have been able to travel the world and watch as spine surgery has evolved—really faster than almost any branch of orthopaedic surgery. It has been an immense pleasure and honor."

"Travelling and meeting like-minded surgeons from around the world is like becoming a member of a club and has been a lot of fun. At the same time being part of the orthopaedic education of over 200 residents and 30 fellows and seeing them go out and establish great practices throughout the country and the world has been very gratifying. I tell friends in New Zealand that I gave up mountain streams and trout for muddy bayous and catfish...rugby football for LSU Tigers and the Saints—and have zero regrets!"



I would stay two years, then I met Carey and got very busy at work...and we just never left!"

"Looking back," says Dr. King, "I think we were stronger back then, because we all had our special interests and most of the private practice doctors had not done fellowships. There were almost no spine surgeons, so I was doing adult

## FEATURING

### **Anna Cohen-Rosenblum, M.D., M.Sc.**

Not even five years out of training, Dr. Anna Cohen-Rosenblum has recently returned from a very unique educational experience that extremely few surgeons get to have—The Hip Society-British Hip Society Traveling Fellowship. Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum, who specializes in hip and knee replacements, attended Albany Medical College, did her residency at the University of Chicago, and then completed a hip and knee fellowship at the University of Virginia. She was one of only two U.S. surgeons selected for this year's fellowship... and she was the first female surgeon to ever be invited.

Speaking of this experience, Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum says, "Every other year the Hip Society and its British counterpart, the British Hip Society, select two U.S. hip surgeons who are in their first five years of practice to go to the UK and visit different facilities with the goal of a transatlantic exchange of ideas. Fellows are able to observe in the operating room and give academic presentations to the different institutions we visit. This year they changed things up and added two UK surgeons to the mix and all four of us travelled together."

"I found the opportunity to be with my two British counterparts/ambassadors supremely helpful. They knew the training system and how hip replacements are done in the UK and we spent a great deal of time together." Expounding on the highlights of her trip, Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum states, "It was striking to see the level of popularity of cemented hip replacements in the UK. In the U.S. we have moved towards a press fit/uncemented procedure, but they have decades of registry data to prove the success of cemented femoral components."



"Because the UK has nationalized healthcare, they have been able to put together an ultra-comprehensive national joint registry where surgical outcomes are followed for decades, meaning that surgeons can see how both they and the implants they use perform over time. It's fantastic how you can track your own progress. If your hip replacements are getting revised at a higher rate than other surgeons, then you can get a personalized report and see what's going on. Yes, we have the American Joint Replacement Registry, but it doesn't have all of the features of the UK registry, at least not yet."

And so, will she opt for cement on occasion? "Yes," says Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum, "I will be more likely to use cement in different situations given what I learned about outcomes and techniques. In the U.S. we think of using cement only when there is poor bone quality and especially in the setting of hip arthroplasty for femoral neck fracture. However, I now will be more likely to use it for elective cases or in the event of abnormal anatomy."

"This fellowship was an ideal opportunity to meet international leaders in the field and expand my horizons so that I can best help my patients here in New Orleans. We ended the experience at the annual meeting of the British Orthopaedic Association, where we were able to reconnect with hip surgeons we had met over the course of our travels and wrap things up."

# News & Updates



## **Dr. Simkin Mentors High School Students**

Dr. Jennifer Simkin had the opportunity to mentor two high school students who have been involved with Ortho Research in the lab this summer.

These two students,

Gabrielle Alphonse and Charlotte Raymond, placed first and third in the Virtual Poster Symposium for the High School and Undergraduate Summer Research Internship Program. The students were scored based on their posters, presentations, and their ability to answer the judges' questions.

Thank you to the mentors and their staff, the LSUHSC administration for their continuous support, and all the judges for their time in evaluating the presentations. Congratulations to both Charlotte and Gabrielle on this achievement!

## **LSU Orthopaedics Article Featured on JB & JS**

Some of our faculty recently had their article featured in a JBJS editorial. The article, "Low Rates of Reporting Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status in Studies Published in Top Orthopaedic Journals" was researched and written by Dr. Cody Crnkovic, Dr. Robert Quiring, Dr. Andrew J. Chapple, Dr. Amy Bronstone, Dr. Peter Krause, and Dr. Vinod Dasa. This article sought to address the misrepresentation of reporting patient demographics associated with health disparities - including race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status (SES) - in top Orthopaedic journals.

## **We Say Good-by to Roy Rodger Marrero Sr., M.D.**

December 14, 1933 – November 07, 2022

In loving memory of Roy Rodger Marrero, M.D.

Dr. Marrero was a trailblazer within New Orleans Orthopaedic Surgery and an inspiration to us all.

From 1958 to 1965 he worked as a research associate at LSU Medical Center in New Orleans. During this time, he enrolled in the Master's Degree Program at LSU and earned a Masters in Medical Physiology in 1963. He enrolled in Howard University College of Medicine in 1965. He was awarded a scholarship as a freshman. He graduated from medical school in 1969, finishing third in his class and was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society.

He and his family then moved back to New Orleans where he completed his internship at Charity Hospital in 1970. In July of that same year, he began the Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program at Tulane University School of Medicine.

In 1974, he became the first Black Orthopaedic Surgeon in Louisiana.

Over the course of his career, he had many accomplishments, and his legacy will always be remembered and honored by all of us in the orthopaedic surgery department.

## **Dr. Clement hosts Peds Ortho podcast live at POSNA Annual Meeting**

Dr. Clement along with Dr. Craig Louer from Vanderbilt and Dr. Julia Sanders of Children's Hospital Colorado host the Peds Ortho podcast, the official podcast of the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America, POSNA. At this years annual meeting, held May 11-14 in Vancouver, a live session of the podcast was recorded. In this episode, the doctors interviewed moderators, course chairs, and award winners from the first few days of the meeting to discuss their sessios/papers.



## **Dr. Accousti Discusses Advances of Imaging in Spine Surgery at IMAST 2022**

On April 7th, Dr. Accousti taught a Hands-On Workshop at the International Meeting on Advanced Spine Techniques (IMAST) 2022. IMAST is an in-



person and virtual meeting experience where leading spine surgeons, innovative researches, and the most advanced spine technologies come together in an international forum to demonstrate and discuss recent advances in spine surgery. Dr. Accousti, along with Laural Blakemore, MD, CEO of Pediatric Specialists of Virginia and Jose Valerio-Pascua, MD of Miami Neuroscience Center, taught a Hands-On Workshop titled “Current trend in imaging: workflow, image quality and best-use scenarios.” The panel discussed the recent advances of imaging in spine surgery and workflow considerations. They covered scenarios that may benefit from the use of intraoperative imaging.

### **Dr. Peter Krause Awarded LSU LIFT2 Grant**

Dr. Peter Krause was recently awarded the LSU Leveraging Innovation for Technology Transfer (LIFT2) Grant for the project, “Orthopaedic Blocking Screw Aligner”. Dr. Krause will be working with Dr. Charles Tayler, Director of the Digital Fabrication Center to design 3d printed surgical tools for use in orthopaedic trauma surgery. They received a one year grant of \$27,000 to start their project. The LIFT2 Grant was established by the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College to support the furtherance of innovation and commercialization through proof-of-concept research.

Congratulations Dr. Krause!

### **The History and Legacy of Racial Segregation in Hospitals in the United States**

In February, Dr. Ellis Arjmand had grand rounds for the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery about The History and the Legacy of Racial Segregation in Hospitals in the United States. Dr. Arjmand is currently the Surgeon-in-Chief at Children’s Hospital New Orleans where he provides oversight of all surgical service lines and is responsible for developing and implementing a strategic vision for the continued growth of high-quality surgical services. He is nationally known for his expertise in healthcare quality improvement and health economics.

After a decade in practice, Dr. Arjmand became increasingly interested in management and delivery of healthcare and decided to go back to school to earn his Masters in Healthcare Management. While in school, Dr. Arjmand found himself enthralled in learning

about the history of the Black Hospital movement in the mid 20th century in the United States and about the institutional racism and formalized segregation that existed in United States until the 1960s.

In this lecture, Dr. Armand covers the vast history of institutionalized racism within the US healthcare system and a number of groundbreaking Supreme Court cases such as *Simpkins Vs. Cone*, otherwise known as the *Plessy Vs. Ferguson* case of healthcare. Dr. Arjmand delves into the timeline of pivotal points in healthcare history that has taken us from segregation within our hospitals to equity for healthcare workers across the board in the US.



### **Dr. Cohen-Rosenblum Accepted as AAHKS Health Policy Fellow**

The Department of Orthopaedics is proud to announce Dr. Anna Cohen-Rosenblum was accepted as a 2022-2023 AAHKS Health Policy Fellowship.

The Fellowship is a two-year program that provides exposure to the various legislative and regulatory bodies that impact our members’ ability to render healthcare services to their patients.

Congratulations Dr. Anna Cohen-Rosenblum!

### **Dr. Rivera Offered Member-at-Large Position on AAOS Now Editorial Board**

Dr. Rivera was offered a Member-at-Large position on the AAOS Now Editorial Board on September 6, 2021. AAOS Now is a monthly news magazine published by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS). It is the No. 1 nonpeer-reviewed orthopaedic publication and is No. 2 of all orthopaedic publications.



Dr. Rivera served eleven years of active duty military service, deploying twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield and once to Tegucigalpa Honduras

for a pediatric orthopaedic medical training exercise. Following her honorable discharge from the military in 2018, she sought additional training as a pediatric orthopaedic fellow at the Rubin Institute for Advanced Orthopaedics and International Center for Limb Lengthening in Baltimore, Maryland. Her career goals involve specializing in pediatric and post traumatic limb lengthening and deformity correction, and participating in translational research to advance the science of limb reconstruction.

**Dr. Jennifer Simkin Elected as Basic Sciences Faculty Assembly Delegate**



Congratulations to Dr. Simkin who was elected by the faculty of the School of Medicine as a Basic Sciences Faculty Assembly Delegate for a 3 years term from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

The School of Medicine (SOM) Faculty Assembly (FA) is composed of 34 Delegates who are elected by the full-time clinical and basic science faculty within the SOM. The Delegates serve the SOM faculty by representing them as a collective voice to both the Administration of the SOM and the entire LSU Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC). To accomplish this purpose, the Assembly has regularly scheduled meetings and works closely with the Dean of the SOM. Assembly meetings are open to all faculty of the SOM and approved minutes are posted on the FA website.



**Dr. Keven Riche Elected to Louisiana Orthopaedic Association Board of Directors**

Dr. Kevin Riche was elected to the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association Board of Directors at their Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, March

18, 2021. He will serve as the Regional Director for Greater Baton Rouge.

Dr. Riche practices orthopaedic surgery at the Baton Rouge Orthopaedic Clinic (BROC). Dr. Riche graduated from LSU Medical School in New Orleans and completed his orthopaedic internship at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine in New York. He completed his orthopaedic residency training at LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. He then completed a fellowship in orthopaedic trauma at Harvard School of Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Riche is board certified in orthopaedic surgery.

Dr. Riche and his wife, Dr. Catherine Riche, both live and practice orthopaedic surgery in Baton Rouge at BROC.

**Dr. Leslie Sisco Wise Elected to Second Vice-President of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association**



Dr. Leslie Sisco Wise was elected to Second Vice-President of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association at the Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021.

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

Dr. Sisco-Wise is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with certificate of added qualification in surgery of the hand. She is also a consultant for the New Orleans Pelicans.

She graduated from LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans and completed her orthopaedic residency at LSU Health Science Center in New Orleans. She then completed a fellowship in hand and upper extremity surgery at the University of California in San Francisco. She is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the American Society for Surgery of the Hand.

Dr. Sisco-Wise and her husband, Dr. Whit Wise, have three children: Alton, Evans and Eleanor.



**Welcome Dr Amit Bhandutia, our new spine doctor joining us in June!**

“I am honored to come onboard to the LSU Department of Orthopaedics. I am looking forward to working alongside the faculty, residents and staff.

As a background, I grew up in southeastern PA. I completed my residency training at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA and have done two spine fellowships; at University of Maryland Medical Center/R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore, MD and at Case Western Reserve University Hospitals - Cleveland Medical Center in Cleveland OH. I have also worked in private practice in New Jersey in both spine and general orthopaedics.

I enjoy caring for patients with spinal pathology. The decision making can be complex and the surgery can be technically demanding, but patients can stand to obtain great benefit from spine surgical intervention. I take pride in treating my patients like family, and I feel the most gratifying part of my job is returning patients to maximal function.

Outside of work, I enjoy travel, trying new food, reading, and weightlifting. My wife and I are excited to come to New Orleans and enjoy all that the city has to offer.”

**Professor and Chair of LSU Orthopaedics Robert D. Zura, MD has edited and published supplements to the March 2021 Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma.**

**Anna R Cohen-Rosenblum, MD Named UMC New Orleans Physician of the Quarter**

**Dr. Anna Cohen-Rosenblum Presents at the 30th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Hip & Knee Surgeons (AAHKS)**

On November 8, 2020, Anna Cohen-Rosenblum, MD (top left) presented her research at the 30th annual meeting of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons (AAHKS). Her talk was titled “Gender Representation in Speaking Roles at the AAHKS Annual Meeting, 2012-2019” and emphasized

the importance of visibility and inclusivity in national surgical meetings to encourage diversity with the field.

**Former LSU Orthopaedic Faculty Member & LSU Offensive Lineman, Dr. Keith Melancon, Loses Battle With Brain Cancer**



Sept. 28, 2020

We remember the life and legacy of Dr. Keith P. Melancon, who was, among many things, a great orthopaedic surgeon, an esteemed faculty member, and a fearsome offensive lineman for the LSU football team, class of 1986.

Dr. Melancon lost his 20-year battle with brain cancer, but his contributions to the LSU Department of Orthopaedics and beyond will live on. Our deepest condolences to the Melancon family.

**LSU Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dr. Jessica Rivera, Implants First All Internal Bone Transport Intramedullary Nail in the State of Louisiana**

The nail was inserted to treat a tibial nonunion and will lengthen to fill the defect created to treat the nonunion (unhealed bone). The patient had requested an amputation as the patient had given up hope and had run out of options. A honest to goodness limb salvage procedure!

# Research News



**Vinod Dasa, MD** - Director of Research

Research Coordinator

Basic Science



**Elaine Hicks**



**Dr. Jennifer Simkin**

**T**he research team has been very busy examining a number of different challenges within orthopaedics ranging from health disparities to infections. We have covered a lot of ground over the past few years despite the pandemic and are poised to grow even faster as we slowly return back to normal.

Our basic science team led by Dr. Jessica Rivera has been awarded a number in trauma, inflammation, and novel pain pathways grants totaling more than \$3M in the last 6 mos.

Dr. Simkin has initiated the trauma related projects using the DoD funding.

Dr. L. Marrero was awarded 2 institutional grants with the most recent focusing on novel pain pathways related to osteoarthritis.

Our big data team led By 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 approximately 5 publications in the last 18 mos with over 20 projects in the queue.

Our student clinical project team led by Dr. Vinod Dasa has published groundbreaking results ranging from opioid free total knee replacements to impacting health disparities research in top tier journals such as JBJS.

Dr. Rivera and Dr. Dasa have developed a robust clinical trial research program since the end of covid with approximately 5 different multi-center trials ongoing or starting over the last 12 mos.

We are seeing growing productivity from our newer faculty Drs. Amit Bhandutia and Carter Clement who are bringing new ideas and identifying challenging concepts in spine and pediatrics.

The research program has been rapidly growing and continuously looking to engage alumni and find new collaborators to help grow and move orthopaedics forward.

## ***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, Olivia Leonovic, Ankur Khana

## Recent grants:

Targeting arthralgia in knee osteoarthritis via non-psychoactive cannabinoid mechanisms: \$68k

PI: Dr. Luis Marrero, Dr. Vinod Dasa

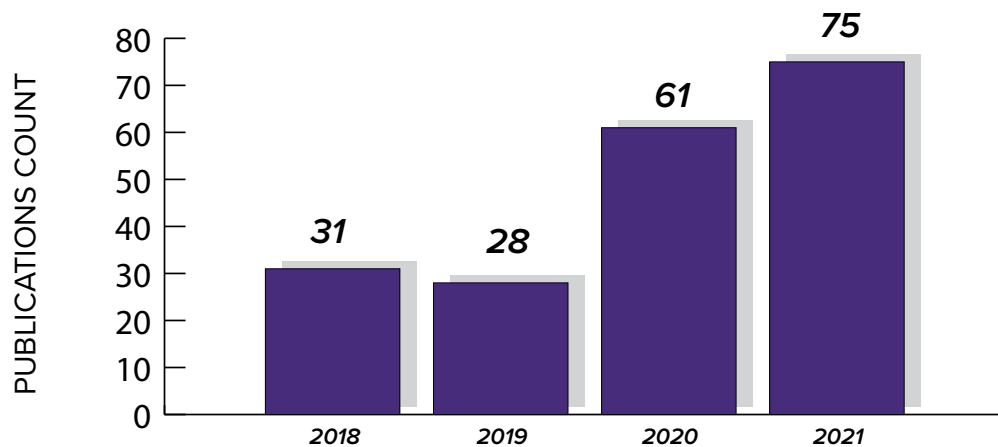
Intraosseous Antibiotic for Point of Care Wound Prophylaxis: \$723k

PI: Dr. Jessica Rivera, Dr. Jennifer Simkin

Intramedullary Calcium Sulfate Antibiotic Depot for Prevention of Open Fracture Related Infection: A Randomized Clinical Trial: \$2.2M

PI: Dr. Jessica Rivera

## Publications over past 4 years:



# Awards & Accolades

## 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

**LOA Award** – Louisiana Orthopaedics Association Award given to a LA Orthopaedic Surgery Resident who presents the best/top paper at the LOA Annual Meeting

## Awards 2022 Winners

Jack Winter's Award	Peter D. D'Amore, MD
Orthopaedics In-Training Award	Ryan C. Roubion, MD
King Award	Peter D. D'Amore, MD
Rooney Award	R. Carter Clement, MD
D 'Ambrosia Award	L. Scott Levin, MD
Research Speaker Award	Jessica Rivera, MD, PhD
LOA (Top Resident Paper)	2nd Place/Cristina Terhoeve, MD

## Awards 2021 Winners

Jack Winter's Award	Tyler C. White, MD
Orthopaedics In-Training Award	Tyler C. White, MD
King Award	Ryan J. Dewitz, MD
Rooney Award	James A. Lalonde, MD
D 'Ambrosia Award	James R. Andrews, MD
Research Speaker Award	Luis Marrero, PhD

## Awards 2020 Winners

Orthopaedics In-Training Award	William L. Shelton, MD
King Award	Tyler C. White, MD
Rooney Award	Michael W. Hartman, MD
D 'Ambrosia Award	James R. Andrews, MD
LOA (Top Resident Paper)	Peter D'Amore, MD

# School Ties

Welcome to the LSU Orthopaedics Family!

## *Births*

Jestin Williams – PGY4  
May 19, 2022  
Baby Girl

**Vittoria Quinn Williams**  
7.5 lbs 19.25 inches

Stuart Schexnayder – PGY5  
July, 2022

**Turk Paul Schexnayder**  
8.1 lbs 20 inches

Ryan Roubion – 2022 Graduate  
June 28, 2022  
Baby Boy

**John Shepherd “Sherp” Roubion**  
8.5 lbs 21 inches



## *Wedding*

Matthew Darlow – PGY4  
March 6, 2022  
Bride – Sarah Robinson  
Location – Houston, TX



# Resident Spotlight



## FEATURING

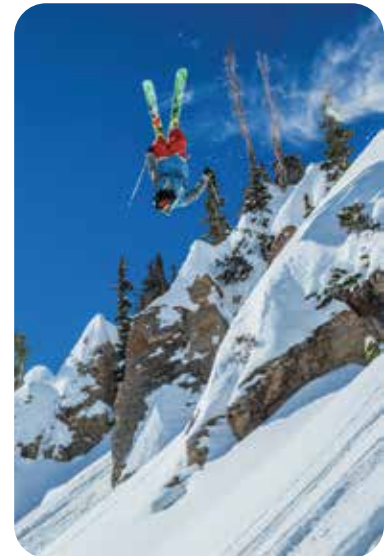
## Dr. Patrik Suwak

The multitalented Dr. Patrik Suwak, now in his final year of the LSU Orthopaedic program, is currently serving as Chief Resident. Although he had multiple career paths to choose from, Dr. Suwak says, “Surgery was always the plan.”

Born in Slovakia in 1989, Dr. Suwak moved to the United States with his mother after the fall of Communism. “We arrived in the U.S. when I was six years old and settled in southern Maryland. When I finished my undergraduate work at the University of Pittsburgh, I moved to Salt Lake City, where I pursued my interest in backcountry skiing. I grew up snow-skiing, and being able to pursue the sport at the next level in the wilderness and mountain ranges of Northern Utah was a life-changing opportunity.” Backcountry skiing involves venturing into the mountains beyond the boundaries of ski resorts, oftentimes through difficult to access terrain. Over

time, he garnered ski sponsorships and worked with photographers to document his skiing.

“Venturing into steep mountains and cliffs after snowstorms exposes us to the risks of avalanche terrain. Going into isolated and untracked areas where avalanches were possible involved a substantial learning curve. The meticulous preparation, attention to detail, and teamwork amongst those involved translates well into the skillset necessary to successfully perform surgery.”



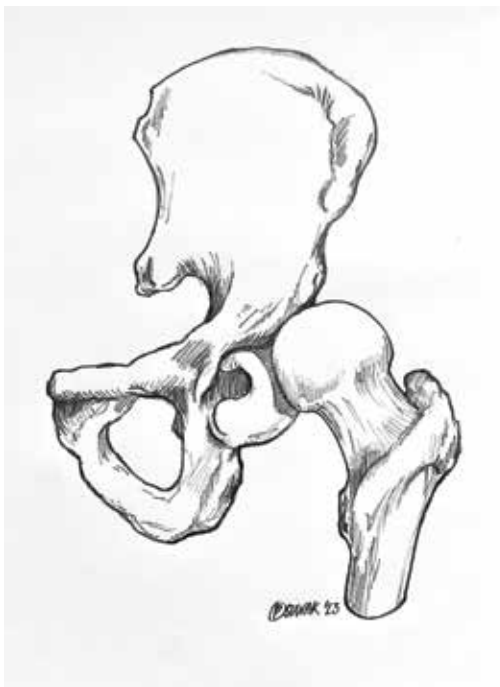
One of the people Dr. Suwak met on the slopes of Alta, Utah was an

orthopaedic surgeon. “I ended up working with this group of orthopedists throughout medical school. Seeing how acutely orthopaedics could help people with fractures and traumatic injuries from the mountains immediately attracted me to our specialty.”

Over the course of his medical training, Dr. Suwak revisited his interest in illustration to help him more thoroughly grasp musculoskeletal anatomy. “I grew up drawing and worked for some publications that needed medical illustrations. Now, when my colleagues and I publish a paper, I can provide a visual representation of our







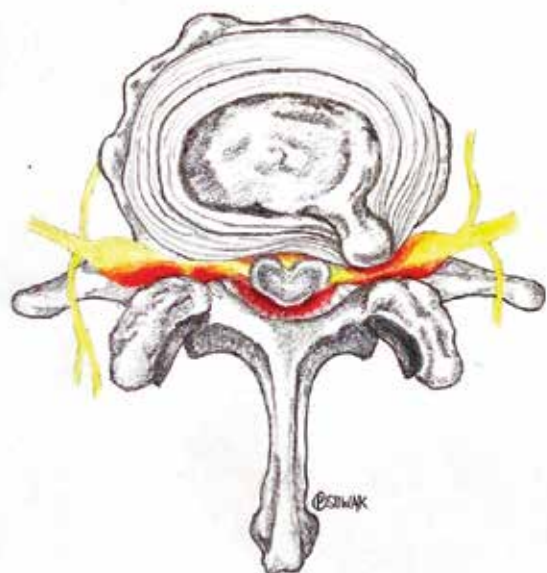
concepts. Drawing a surgical approach or the bony anatomy of a procedure helps to better prepare for the surgical technique.” (Cover art and other sketches in this publication were illustrated by Dr. Suwak)

“During medical school at A.T. Still University in Arizona, I did a rotation at LSU and spent a month here in New Orleans with the trauma team at UMC. As the tertiary care center of the Gulf South, we manage high energy trauma from Louisiana and the surrounding states. We also treat an extremely high volume of orthopaedic penetrating gunshot violence from the New Orleans area. I was impressed with the ease at which the residents undertook these cases, even though many of them were early on in their program.”

Regarding his own experience with the LSU orthopaedic residency program, Dr. Suwak states, “What stands out most for me is the surgical experience that our residents get. We have the appropriate amount of autonomy, paired with sufficient operative oversight, which means we get a great variety of surgical exposure by the time we finish the program. We have excellent attendings at our academic center and with our private practice rotations that prepare us for our future orthopaedic practice.”



“I am looking forward to the next step in my training—a spine fellowship at Twin Cities Spine Center in Minneapolis. Thanks to my superb LSU mentors and other aspects of the program, I will be well prepared for that experience.”



# Resident News

Children's Medical Center (LCMC)'s University Medical Center.

Before performing his role in the milestone surgery, Dr. Robert Zura shared his thoughts on the importance of the new outpatient center at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "This is truly a team event, and has remained patient-focused," said Zura, "I had kind of forgotten that we started with an interim plan, but we've ended up with the Taj Mahal of outpatient surgery centers. The focus always was for us to have this kind of patient center that would allow us to take care of more patients, more efficiently."

## Residents of the LSU Department of Orthopaedics Receive Top Honors at 2020 Louisiana Orthopaedic Association's (LOA) Annual Meeting

Dr. Peter D'Amore and fellow resident, Dr. John Valentino, have won the "Top Resident Paper Competition" and the "Top Biomedical Paper Competition" respectively at this year's LOA Meeting.



The well-attended event took place at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Hotel from March 6-7. Attendees received valuable continuing education from keynote speakers, participated in networking with orthopaedic colleagues, and received information about the latest products and services for orthopaedic practices during the trade show.

"It is an honor to receive the award of Top Biomechanical Paper at the 2020 Louisiana Orthopaedic Association (LOA) annual meeting



## Cristina Terhoeve wins second place at LOA Annual Meeting

LSU Orthopaedic resident Cristina Terhoeve placed second in Top Resident Paper Competition for her

paper *Delayed Fixation of Distal Radius Fractures: Demographics, Fellowship Training Association, and Consequential Radiographic Outcomes*.

The Louisiana Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting was held March 18-19, 2022. The main goals of the association are to encourage, develop, and increase the knowledge of orthopaedic surgery, foster and assure the highest quality musculoskeletal health care, and monitor legislation, regulations, administrative rulings, and court decisions affecting the practice of orthopaedic surgery.

Congratulation on your win Dr. Terhoeve!



## LSU Orthopaedic Department Head, Dr. Robert Zura, and Chief Resident, Dr. Thomas Stang, Perform Inaugural Surgery at New Outpatient Center

August 11, 2020, New Orleans:

The Robert D'Ambrosia Professor and Department Head of Orthopaedic Surgery at LSU Health Sciences New Orleans, Dr. Robert Zura, alongside Chief Orthopaedic Resident, Dr. Thomas Stang, completed the first surgery utilizing the new outpatient surgery center housed in the Louisiana

for my abstract entitled: *Is Poor Bone Quality Associated with Pain After Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA)?*," said Dr. John Valentino. "This abstract was the result of a group effort started by third-year medical student Michael Langley and supported by the LSUHSC orthopaedic basic science and clinical faculty. Dr. Jennifer Simkin, Dr. Luis Marrero, and Dr. Vinod Dasa not only played integral roles in helping me complete this abstract during my 2019 summer of volunteer research, but also to follow through and ultimately make a podium presentation at LOA during my second year of medical school. This abstract investigated and found a significant correlation between bone health and pain (90) days after a total knee replacement. These findings have a niche potential to help pre-operatively risk adjust patients using patient-reported outcome measures as a factor in determining physician reimbursement rates in future bundled-payment systems."

In addition to Dr. Valentino's win, third-year LSU orthopaedic resident, Dr. Peter D'Amore, was awarded first place in the Top Resident Paper competition. Dr. D'Amore and Dr. Thomas Stang, a fellow orthopaedic resident, contributed to what they believe represents the most extensive multi-center study to date on surgically treated low-velocity gunshot wounds to the hip. This collaborative study with St. Louis University and Prisma Health will help surgeons to better treat and educate patients on the outcomes of gunshot wounds to the hip.

## **LSU Orthopaedic Residents Win Multiple Distinctions at OREF Symposium**

We are extremely proud to announce that on October 27, three of our residents presented at the OREF Southeast Region Resident Research Symposium. Twelve projects were selected from institutions such as Duke, Vanderbilt, and Emory but LSU had the most selected projects and wins out of any school in attendance!

Scott Barnett won Third Place for his presentation *Comparison of Short-leg and Long-leg Casts for the Treatment of Distal Third Tibial Shaft Fractures in Children*.



Corinne Cloud tied for Presenters Choice Award for her presentation *Advantages of an Orthopaedic Trauma Room for Diaphyseal Femur Fractures*.



Patrik Suwak tied for Presenters Choice Award for his presentation *Assessing Vertebral Body Rotation in Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery*.



Congratulations to Scott Barnett, Patrik Suwak, and Corinne Cloud for their hard work!

# Graduation 2022

## Congratulations Graduates!



*Left to Right*

**Ryan Roubion, MD**

Sports Medicine & Arthroscopy  
– Mississippi Sports Medicine  
& Orthopaedic Clinic; Jackson,  
MS

**Cristina Terhoeve, MD**

Hand & Upper Extremity  
– University of Chicago;  
Chicago, IL

**Corinne Cloud, MD**

Cleveland Clinic Combined  
Hand & Upper Extremity –  
Cleveland Clinic; Cleveland, OH

**Peter D'Amore, MD**

Spine Surgery – Harvard  
Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center; Boston, MA

## Welcome 2022 New Residents



**Christopher Bloise**  
LSU Health Sciences  
Center, New Orleans



**Matan Ozery**  
Florida International  
University



**Lauren Saunee**  
LSU Health Sciences  
Center, New Orleans



**Peter Yager**  
LSU Health Sciences  
Center, New Orleans



**SPECIAL GUEST**  
**Scott Levin, MD**  
Penn Medicine, Philadelphia, PA



# Graduation 2021

## Congratulations Graduates!



*Left to Right*

**Ryan Dewitz, MD**

Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery – Children’s Hospital; Los Angeles, CA

**Sagar Shah, MD**

Hand & Upper Extremity Surgery – University of Colorado; Denver, CO

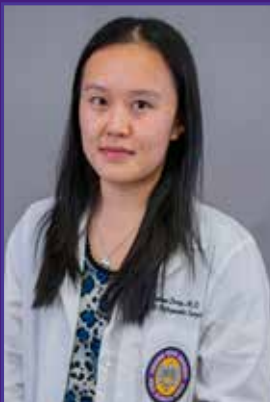
**Thomas Stang, DO**

Orthopaedic Trauma - Florida Orthopaedic Institute; FL

**Tyler White, MD**

Adult Spine Surgery – Twin Cities Spine Center; Minneapolis, MN

## Welcome 2021 New Residents



**Katherine Dong**  
Baylor College of Medicine



**Bronson Fong**  
LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans



**Daniel Gelvez**  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas



**Ravi Rajendra**  
University of South Alabama



# Graduation 2020

## Congratulations Graduates!

*Left to Right*

**Kirk Jeffers, MD**

Sports Medicine – Steadman Hawkins Clinic; Denver, CO

**Samuel Klatman, MD**

San Diego Arthroscopy & Sports Medicine; San Diego, CA

**Daniel Plessl, MD**

Sports Medicine – Harvard Medical School; Boston, MA

**William Shelton, MD**

Hands & Upper Extremities – Philadelphia Hand to Shoulder Center @ Thomas Jefferson university; Philadelphia, PA



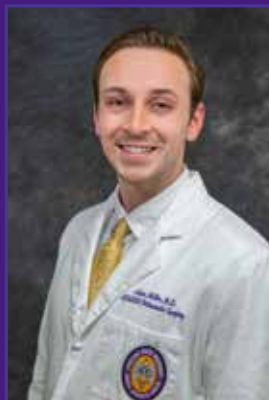
## Welcome 2020 New Residents



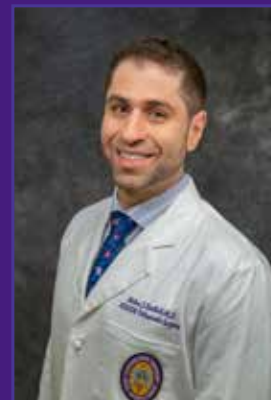
**Austin Broussard**  
University of Tennessee



**Adam Haydel**  
LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans



**Adam Miller**  
LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans



**Nathan Redlich**  
Medical College of Wisconsin





# Tiger Bones



## FEATURING

### Mark Juneau, Jr., M.D.

When Mark Juneau, M.D. began his orthopaedic residency in 1973 he could not have envisioned how his efforts would eventually lay the groundwork for LSU's high-tech resident training of the future. Dr. Juneau, a graduate of the University of New Orleans and LSU School of Medicine, as well as the LSU/Charity Hospital orthopaedic surgery residency, has contributed to the strength and character of the LSU orthopaedic surgery program via numerous channels.

Dr. Juneau: "When I started my orthopaedic residency in 1973, Dr. Irvin Cahen was head of the department but retired during the first year and the torch was passed to Robert D'Ambrosia, one of my mentors. Drs. Barry Reimer and Andy King succeeded Dr. D'Ambrosia as head of the department and I maintained a close working relationship with both surgeons. I was charged with and succeeded in developing a Chair to honor Dr. D'Ambrosia."

Reflecting on his training at LSU, Dr. Juneau notes, "At the time, all of the orthopaedic residents were male, so unfortunately, we missed out on the female perspective. And because this was prior to the 80-hour work week we would split call with Tulane. It was insanely busy but having all that time in the hospital gave us a lot of surgical experience—more so than now."

Working at Charity Hospital with no air conditioning in the sleeping quarters, Dr. Juneau and his colleagues improvised in several ways. "At least we had a fan!" he exclaims. "And we did what we had to do in order to take care of patients, including hiding x-rays under the patients' mattresses! Why? Because if they were lost then we had no history on that patient to present. We also had to contend with the boom-boom-boom of constant pile driving because the Superdome was being built nearby."

Now an assistant clinical professor, Dr. Juneau is interested in teaching residents how to succeed in private practice after completion of their training; he also lectures on how to evaluate a practice and negotiate a contract.

As president of the LSU Medical Alumni Association, Dr. Juneau was a pivotal part of the development of the Russell Klein Center for Advanced Practice. "The Center, which opened in 2008, was a boon to medical education at LSU. Thanks to simulators, we could teach residents and medical students how to do simple surgeries without any risk to live patients. The orthopaedic residents use cadaveric specimens to practice surgical procedures before going into the operating room."

Honored as the LSU Medical School Alumnus of the Year in 2009, Dr. Juneau is also on the board of 'The LSU School of Medicine Committee of 100—Champions of Excellence.' "This idea came about because Professors Vaughn and Samuels envisioned that if 100 people donate \$1000/year then we could eventually reach the \$1 million mark. The movement has grown to over 700 people and indeed has been a great source of income for the medical school.

When he held the presidency of the Greater New Orleans Orthopaedic Society, Dr. Juneau did his best to maintain the organization's purpose, namely, to foster physician relationships in the service of patient care. "My goal was that physicians would get to know each other and feel comfortable obtaining additional information on a patient's history or getting a second opinion."

As president of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Society in 1999, he along with others helped to establish the

organization as an educational and legislative body that is respected statewide and nationally. He has served as the organization's state representative for Workers' Compensation, appointed by Governor Blanco, Medicare, and AAOS Board of Councilors.

Dr. Juneau, cognizant of the rising expenses involved in modern day orthopaedic training, launched an initiative in 2016 to fund resident education. "The original idea for Tiger Bones, the Resident Educational LSU Orthopaedic Resident Fund, was the brainstorm of Dr. John McClaughlin. It was clear that with sophisticated technology on the rise, we would need to secure a funding pipeline for training funds."

The chairman and founder of Tiger Bones, Dr. Juneau says, "We hold an annual social event for LSU orthopaedics alumnae who completed an LSU orthopaedic residency, as well as senior residents, and we invite guests, including representatives from various orthopaedic supply companies. All contributions allow us to provide expanded access to training experiences, technology updates, and educational opportunities that are necessary in a world-class residency training program. Since its inception, Tiger Bones has raised \$100,000 for the orthopaedic department, much of which is used to purchase textbooks and send residents to national and international meetings."

Continuing his fundraising charge, Dr. Juneau sits as the treasurer on the Board of Directors of the LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation. "The funds we raise are allocated to scholarships and ultimately, to the advancement of education, research, patient care, and community outreach. Our latest project involves building an on-campus dormitory for medical and allied health students. It's particularly exciting because it is being constructed at no charge to LSU. It is being funded by tax-free bonds and built by a nonprofit construction company. So not only will the school have significant income from this over time but at the end of 50 years we will own the building outright."

And in acknowledgement of his many efforts, a conference room in the building will be named after Dr. Juneau.

The Foundation is also working on a project involving the largest-ever donation to the LSU Health Foundation, a \$7 million land grant from the Al Copeland Foundation. "This project will include an over-55 apartment facility and hotel on the Northshore of Lake Pontchartrain. It will generate income through the land lease agreement and is being built at no cost to LSUJ. Other revenue-generators and convenience for students include two restaurants on campus."

Dr. Juneau's latest project, still in its infancy, is to help develop a clinic, supported by foundation donors, to detect individuals with hereditary DNA mutations that predispose them to cancer. "The goal is to have these individuals tested and identified using funds raised by donors. Early detection of the cancers can lead to early treatment and higher cure rates."

And in a grand effort to pay it forward, his family has created a Mark Juneau, Jr., M.D. endowed scholarship fund to assist a disadvantaged senior medical student who has accepted an orthopaedic residency at LSU.

The humble Dr. Juneau finishes up by saying, "Each of my philanthropic efforts can be traced back to my mentors, and many dedicated people who deeply loved LSU. None of these projects have been done alone."





***Dr. King's note to LSU Orthopaedic Alumni:***

After 42 years with the department and 168 residents, who by my calculation inhabit all but two states in the USA, I have gathered many interesting stories. The stories I tell that emanated from residency have been greatly embellished by my imagination, but much more from meeting former residents at the alumni reception at the AAOS meeting. This reception is now funded by Tiger Bones, from the generosity of former residents.

At the last reception, only four alumni were present, and consideration was given to termination of the reception. For me this would be a big loss. More importantly, seeing the success of our former residents and hearing about their families and careers, I would hate to see the many great evenings finish. So, with the next academy meeting in Las Vegas in March 2023, could all alumni who see this message please email back if they will be present at the meeting and would like to attend the reception. That will give the officers of Tiger Bones a heads up to prepare. And, please try to attend the meeting. Vegas is always a great host city.



# Tiger Bones



Please join us for the Fifth Annual

## *Tiger Bones Banquet*

Friday, February 3, 2023  
Seven o'clock in the evening

Muriel's  
The Cotillion Room  
801 Chartres Street | NOLA 70116

Cocktails & Dinner

Cocktail Attire  
Seating is Limited - Reservation Required

President: Jeffrey Sketchler, MD

## *Ticket Reservations*

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

## *Sponsorship Levels*

**\$1,000 - Bronze**  
(2 Registrants plus Tiger Bones Cap)

**\$2,500 - Silver**  
(2 Registrants plus Tiger Bones Cap)

**\$3,500 - Gold**  
(4 Registrants plus Tiger Bones Cap)

**\$5,000 - Diamond**  
(4 Registrants plus Tiger Bones Cap)

**\$10,000 - Platinum**  
(6 Registrants plus Tiger Bones Cap)

**W**e 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

## Grand Rounds Lectures & Lab 2023

January 20, 2023	Adult Reconstruction
February, 2023	None
March 17, 2023	Lower Extremity
April 21, 2023	Hand
May 19, 2023	Foot & Ankle
June 9, 2023	Trauma

**We thank you for your generous support!**

**LSU Health**  
NEW ORLEANS

School of Medicine

Department of  
**Orthopaedics**