

Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation

Golden-Headed Cane Award Nomination

Submitted by: Professor & Chairman Robert C. Schenck Jr., M.D.

Bob Schenck Jr - Professor + Chair UNM Orthopaedics

I am honored to nominate Dr. Dale Hoekstra for the Golden-Headed Cane Award in light of his impressive clinical, academic, professional and community service accomplishments. Dale joined us in 2007 and serves as Assistant Professor for Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery and Medical Director of Carrie Tingley Hospital Pediatric Orthopaedics here at UNM. Dale has been an amazing professor and hire.

Heather Menzies  
Mischa Hopson

Dr. Hoekstra earned his MD at Wayne State and completed an internship and residency at William Beaumont Hospital in Michigan. He fulfilled a second residency in Pediatric Orthopaedics at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. Additionally, he provided 8 years of military service at USAF medical facilities nationwide as Chief of Pediatric Orthopaedics. These years of service were a springboard to an exemplary career.

Dale became Director of the Spinal Deformities Clinic at Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital where his advocacy for fair, ethical treatment of persons with spinal deformities blossomed. During his 9+ years there, he became active in the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS), Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA) and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS). He also worked in private practice for 18 years as a Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon at Rochester Hills Orthopaedics, where a team approach to comprehensive orthopaedic and spine care is emphasized. He served as president and leader of his group.

Dale then joined the UNM School of Medicine where he has become a committed leader and phenomenally sage advisor to faculty, residents, and medical students. He has a warm personality and is a huge supporter of UNM Orthopaedics in faculty/resident work satisfaction. He also helps me, in my role as chairman, recruit and retain extraordinary orthopaedic faculty and residents. During his 7 years at UNM, I have come to rely on Dale's opinions on department strategy—in general and on specifics. He is a respected didactic lecturer on Pediatric Orthopaedics and contributes to the annual Carrie Tingley Hospital Annual Winter Conference as a moderator and presenter. In total, he has mentored and instructed some 40 residents and fellows at UNM.

Dale keeps current on advances in Pediatric Orthopaedics by attending annual meetings and courses offered by POSNA, SRS and AAOS plus additional competency-based programs and workshops. He also collaborates on research with publications in the Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics and The Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery.

In my opinion, Dale is an outstanding candidate for this award which will allow us to recognize his wonderful contributions to UNM, New Mexico, and the orthopaedic care of children statewide. Dale has wonderful habits, but none more important than checking with his partners at day's end and asking, "Can I help out with any cases or problems before I leave?"

When Dale's colleagues describe him, words like "practical" and "efficient" are shared. One equates his administrative abilities with "the finesse of a maestro." Another praises Dale's seemingly indefatigable work ethic by noting he is "always ready to pull for the team."

Indeed, Dale is an inspiration to us all and merits consideration of the Golden-Headed Cane Award.

Beno Munn

Ally  
Richard Miller  
Dana Menzies  
Bailey Payne  
John Delano

Sam [unclear]

[unclear]

Andrew [unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

Dustin [unclear]

[unclear]

DR. Echols  
[unclear]

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