

Sandia Orthopaedic Alumni Society

Giving Back to the Program That Trained You

Highlights

MEMORY LANE

5TH ANNUAL JOEL LUBIN VISITING PROFESSORSHIP

3-D BIOPRINTING OF BONE-LIGAMENT TISSUE FOR JOINT REPLACEMENT

ORTHOPAEDICS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SAVE THE DATE: UNM ORTHOPAEDICS ALUMNI CONFERENCE



Hello from Albuquerque and your department of orthopaedics at UNM. This months edition of the Sandia Orthopaedics Alumni Society newsletter is highlighted by a photo montage put together by UNM Alumni and current faculty Rich Miller. The pictures are a tribute to the lighter moments during training throughout the past 30 years. I personally appreciate the picture of Jim Ferries, a resident I heard countless gut busting stories about during my days at UNM. Nice to put a face to the legend. On the other hand, I could have gone a bit longer without seeing the bald three amigos again. I lived through that moment in resident history and it was not pretty. Thank you to Rich Miller for putting this collection together it truly brightened my day. If any of you alumni have similar pictures you wouldn't mind sharing please forward them to Ryan Wood at rwood03@salud.unm.edu. I would like to make this a quarterly feature in the future.

Speaking of revered alumni, please check out the feature on this years Lubin Memorial Visiting Professorship. Once again the memory of Joel Lubin, our good friend and outstanding resident, will be honored by two outstanding speakers: Brian Robinson, MD and Patrick Hudson, MD. In keeping with the theme of physician physical and mental well being, our two speakers will focus on dealing with unexpected life changes and the challenge of coping with physician burnout. We hope to see many of you at the conference this year and if you have not had the opportunity to attend, please plan on joining us next year.

This edition of the SOAS newsletter also focuses on cutting research being performed by the orthopaedic department in collaboration with the school of engineering at UNM. Finally we highlight the outstanding community outreach programs spearheaded by our own Dena Mercer, MD and Dr. Christina Salas. These women have put into action several programs that will inspire future engineers and physicians to follow their dreams and move our fields forward.

To those of you who have contributed to SOAS, my deepest gratitude. To those of you who have yet to participate, the residency and department look forward to your support.

All the best,
John C. Franco, MD
Class of 2003



Residency is Hard Work and Long Hours. Sometimes you need a Little Diversion

Photos Provided By: Rich Miller



Jim Ferries (95) sporting a temporary tattoo



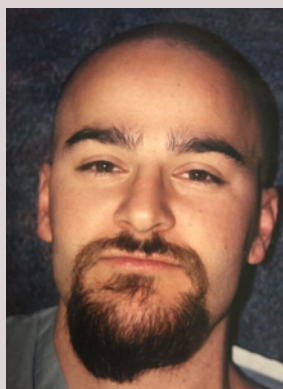
David Cortese (05) doing what we've all done in residency



Jimmy Slauterbeck (93), Dan Downey (92), Grant Dona (93) on the tarmac



Party with Rick Castillo (88), Dudley Burwell (87), Bennett Davis, Lock Ochsner (86), Rich Miller (90) in 1985



Adam Barmada (01), Chris Hanosh (01), Matt Patton (02) rocking the shaved head look

2017 Lubin Memorial Visiting Professorship to Cover Physician Burnout and Personal Injury Reflections

Featured Speakers Include UNM Orthopaedics Alumni

Physician burnout tactics and reflections on a life-changing injury are topics to be covered at the 5th Annual Dr. Joel Lubin Memorial Visiting Professorship set for Wednesday, April 12, 2017. Co-sponsored by The University of New Mexico (UNM) Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation and Sandia Orthopaedic Alumni Society (SOAS), the event is scheduled from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. at UNM's Health Sciences Center, 2ACC Learning Center, Albuquerque, NM, with lunch to follow.

It's Never "Just"

The morning's first keynote speaker, Brian Robinson, MD, is a UNM School of Medicine alumnus who completed his orthopaedic surgery residency with UNM Orthopaedics (Class of 1998). The founder of Grant County Orthopedic Associates (now known as Southwest Bone and Joint Institute in Silver City, NM) and an avid cyclist, Robinson was struck by an SUV while on a bike ride with his wife, Lynn, in May of 2015. Months of hospitalization, rehabilitation and home recuperation followed before Robinson resumed road cycling last October. Besides his wife and family, Robinson also credits his successful recovery to the support of friends, co-workers and former patients who kept positive thoughts for him after the accident. "This experience and the way everyone came out when I was healing has just been amazing," Robinson told a Silver City Daily Press reporter this past February.



Brian and Lynn Robinson

Coaching for Physicians

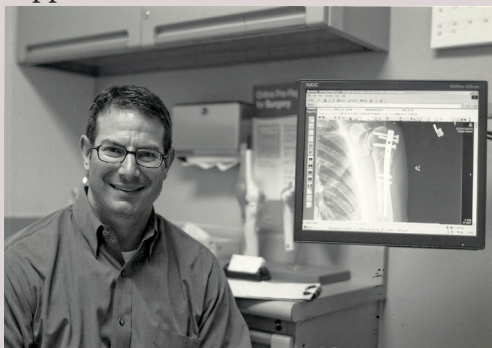
Also joining this year's Professorship agenda is Patrick Hudson, MD, FACS, who will address "Coaching for Physicians" as related to dealing with physician burnout. Hudson is a graduate of Westminster Medical School at London University. He completed his residency in general and plastic surgery at UNM and went on to be a Hand Surgery Fellow with UNM Orthopaedics. Hudson (1978) eventually migrated from being a surgeon to a Board Certified Coach and now specializes in personal life coaching as well as burnout recognition/management and anger management for physicians.



Patrick Hudson

Lubin Professorship History

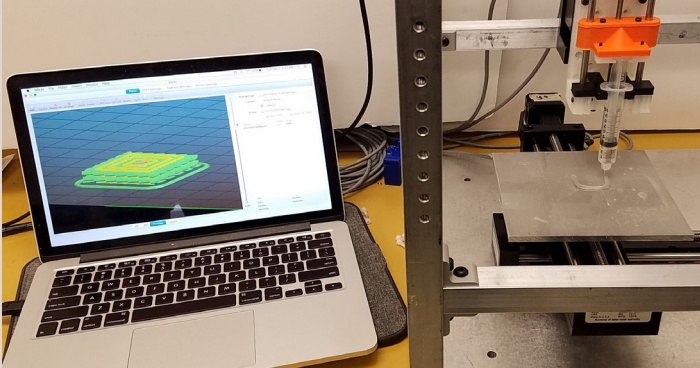
The Joel Lubin Visiting Professorship was established in 2013 through the UNM Foundation. It honors the memory of Dr. Joel Lubin (Class of 2001) who was considered by his UNM Orthopaedic colleagues to be an outstanding surgeon, friend, son and father. Annually, the Professorship spotlights a renowned orthopaedic specialist at Grand Rounds and at a special educational event for current UNM Orthopaedic residents. To sustain the Professorship, an annual fundraising goal of \$5,000 depends on support from alumni and friends. To make a contribution, please email rwood03@salud.unm.edu.



Joel Lubin Class of 2001

June 5, 1969 - March 31, 2012

UNM Orthopaedics Earns Prestigious Grant from American Foundation for Surgery of the Hand to Research 3-D Bioprinting of Bone-Ligament Tissue for Joint Replacement



UNM Orthopaedics' custom 3D bioprinter (right) prints a hydrogel scaffold matching the geometry of a programmed image (left).

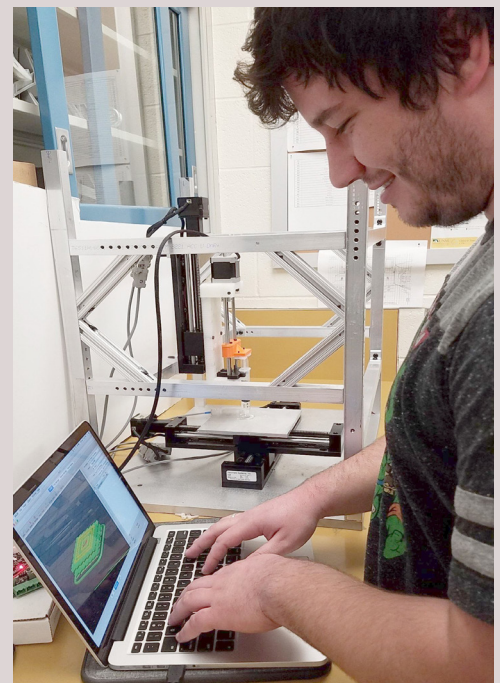
The University of New Mexico Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation's Research Division has received a grant from the American Foundation for Surgery of the Hand in Chicago to create hybrid bone-ligament tissue through electrospinning and 3-D bioprinting techniques for improved hand and wrist surgery outcomes. The unprecedented research project has gained additional funding from UNM's Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Awards.

"Ligament repair or replacement has been plagued by problems from joining soft tissue with adjacent bones," notes Christina Salas, PhD, Director of UNM

Orthopaedics Biomechanics & Biomaterials Laboratory and principal investigator for the research project. "Our proposed methodology would let surgeons import patient-specific bone and ligament anatomy directly into a 3-D printer to better join engineered and native bone during joint repairs or replacement. It also allows for high-strength tissue growth and helps avoid bone grafting and suturing while offering potential to restore full hand and wrist functionality immediately."

Salas is partnering on the project with student researchers from UNM's Electrical and Computer Engineering Department as well as its Mechanical Engineering Department, where she holds a joint appointment. "The long-fiber materials this research project will use for bone-ligament scaffolds show great potential as a biodegradable polymer that, when combined with 3D printing, may enhance scaffold stiffness and strength capabilities to match those of human ligament," says Salas.

The funded research project will continue through 2017. Final results will be presented at an American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH) Annual Meeting, scheduled September 7-9 in San Francisco, and published in ASSH's *The Journal of Hand Surgery* at a later date. "We are excited about Dr. Salas' research and her contributions to important new information in the field," says Julia Fulghum, director of Advance at UNM, a National Science Foundation-funded project that aims to boost the number of women and minorities in STEM fields.



Christopher Buksa, an undergraduate mechanical engineering research assistant in the UNM Orthopaedic Biomechanics & Biomaterials Laboratory, operates a custom 3D bioprinter.

Orthopaedics in the Community

5th Annual Perry Outreach Program: March 2017



Exposing young minds to careers in orthopaedics and engineering can be a life-changing experience—for both the young mind and the exposé. Dr. Jacquelin Perry (1918-2013) took this idea to heart in her mentorship of countless women and men throughout her career as one of the first female orthopaedists. In honor of Dr. Perry's efforts, Dr. Jenni Buckley (mechanical engineer) and Dr. Lisa Lattanza (orthopaedic surgeon) founded the Perry Initiative in 2009 to inspire women leaders in orthopaedic surgery and engineering careers, as women participation in both fields is desperately low. Now a national enterprise, the Perry Initiative runs more than 30 programs annually throughout the United States. At UNM Orthopaedics, we are honored to host one of these programs right here in Albuquerque—the Perry Outreach Program (POP). We have hosted a POP every year since 2013 (twice in 2013, actually), spearheaded by our very own Dr. Christina Salas and Dr. Deana Mercer. At each all-day, free-of-charge event, about 40 female students from high schools throughout New Mexico participate in open discussions and hands-on workshops, ranging from drilling holes in synthetic bones to applying suture techniques on pigs feet. This year, we look immensely forward to working alongside Perry Initiative representatives Nicole Ray (whom we welcome back from last year!) and Grace Cooper, who will lead the all-day event alongside our volunteer faculty, residents, medical professionals, medical students, and engineering students. We at POP Albuquerque strive to actively educate the young women of New Mexico on the essential collaboration between medicine, engineering, and pursuing your ambitions.

Dream Makers Health Career Program: February 2017

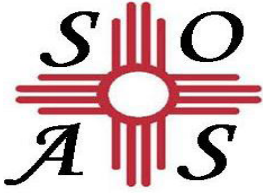


Dr. Christina Salas' name as a distinguished biomedical engineer helps attract our various outreach opportunities in the STEM-related fields. One such opportunity arose when Dr. Salas was contacted by Rosa Samudio from UNM HSC Office of Diversity. Rosa invited our participation in a tour of students throughout north campus facilities, as part of the Dream Makers Health Career Program. This program—a collaboration between UNM HSC Office of Diversity and school districts throughout New Mexico—aims to expose middle- and high-school students to professions in healthcare. So on Friday, February 10, Dr. Salas and her team of engineers (Christopher Buksa, Alexander Hamilton, and Steven Nery) toured students from Robertson High School throughout our Orthopaedic Biomechanics & Biomaterials Laboratory. In another room, other members of our research team (Melanie DeLorenzo, Sahar Freedman, Jodie Gomez, and Lauren Long) spoke about careers in healthcare, ranging from orthopaedic surgeons to graphic designers—and everything in between. We hope to show the students of New Mexico that pursuing a career in healthcare can simply be a matter of choice, not circumstance!

Lunch with Scientist Program: January 2017

In the fall of 2016, our research team was busy with contacting high schools throughout New Mexico. We were hoping to advertise our Perry Outreach Program, and we stumbled upon a golden opportunity to do so! While networking with more than 15 high schools throughout the state, we were contacted by the amazing Krista Rashap, a volunteer Special Projects Coordinator at Bosque High School in Albuquerque. The school had recently begun to revive its Lunch with a Scientist Program, a 1-hour lunch session geared toward encouraging young students to pursue STEM-related careers. In other words, we could talk about the Perry Outreach Program, orthopaedic careers, and engineering professions in one sitting! On Wednesday, January 18, 2017, members of our research team did just that. Melanie DeLorenzo (layout editor), Sahar Freedman (medical editor), Lauren Long (mechanical engineer), and Joy Van Meter (program specialist) led the discussion about research exploits at UNM Orthopaedics. In addition to spreading word of the upcoming Perry Outreach Program in March, we aimed to provide a multidisciplinary glimpse into the world of engineering and medicine, where many kinds of careers await—ranging from doctors to business managers.





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Join Us!



For more information please email Ryan Wood at rwood03@salud.unm.edu.

For more information, or to join, please contact Ryan Wood at 505-272-8745 or rwood03@salud.unm.edu.



Join the Sandia Circle today by committing a pledge of \$25,000 over 5 years (\$416/month) to help current UNM Orthopaedic residents with financial burdens and better their experience in the same program that trained you.

**SANDIA CIRCLE
 LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**