



The 2019-2020 incoming class of Sports Medicine Fellows with Sports Medicine Faculty and SPRI Co-Chairs Dr. Richard Steadman and Dr. Marc Philippon (RIGHT) at The Steadman Clinic and Steadman Philippon Research Institute's Hail & Farewell Event on July 26, 2019

WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION FOR TOP SURGEONS

SPORTS MEDICINE, CLINICAL FELLOWSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS HIGHLIGHT STEADMAN PHILIPPON RESEARCH INSTITUTE'S ELITE PROGRAMS

Since 1990, the fellowship program at Steadman Philippon Research Institute (SPRI) has educated 260 physicians who have continued their careers as orthopaedic leaders all over the United States and abroad. Recently, ten physicians arrived in Vail to begin their 12 months of education in the ACGME-accredited Sports Medicine Fellowship, Foot & Ankle Fellowship and Hip Preservation & Reconstruction Fellowship. Additionally, surgeons from all over the world have joined SPRI as international scholars, working on cutting-edge research in SPRI's laboratories. During their year in Vail, all of the fellows and scholars are committed to the same goal—to expand their knowledge to help patients heal better and faster.

AN ENDOWMENT SECURES THE LEGACY OF SPRI'S POST-RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

In 2018, Oscar Tang and the Tang Family made a generous donation to SPRI's education programs, launching the first-ever endowment in the history of the institute. Supporting both the clinical fellowships and international scholarships, the Tang Family Education Endowment ensures funding for two fellows or scholars each year.

Oscar Tang and the Tang Family believe that the greatest gift you can give is education, and one of the most important aspects of SPRI is its world-class education programs. To the Tang Family, the endowment would secure the legacy of these elite programs, allowing the institute to continue attracting the best and brightest surgeons to train in Vail. This endowment will guarantee the ongoing funding of these programs, which are a vital aspect of the research and education happening at SPRI each day.

Considered some of the world's best post-residency programs, the fellowships and scholarships train tomorrow's orthopaedic experts, who often serve in academic positions at leading universities, maintain chief positions at hospitals and work in elite private practices. Three former clinical fellows currently practice as orthopaedic surgeons at The Steadman Clinic: Dr. Randy W. Viola, Dr. Peter J. Millett (SPRI Chief Medical Officer) and Dr. C. Thomas Haytmanek, Jr. On October 1, 2019, Dr. Jonathan A. Godin will join The Steadman Clinic as the fourth SPRI alumnus to return to the clinic as a practicing surgeon.

Introducing the 2019-2020 Clinical Fellows and International Scholars

This year, SPRI is hosting the most Sports Medicine fellows in its history, welcoming eight orthopaedic surgeons to the program. In addition, SPRI has welcomed one Foot & Ankle Fellow and one Hip Preservation & Reconstruction Fellow this year, and is also hosting a surgeon in a six-month Foot & Ankle fellowship. The institute has also welcomed five international scholars to its program, joining SPRI from Japan, Norway and Germany.

SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWS 2019-2020



JUSTIN ARNER, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Shepherd University
MEDICAL SCHOOL: West Virginia University
RESIDENCY: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center



ADAM JOHANNSEN, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: University of St. Thomas
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Minnesota
RESIDENCY: Stanford Hospital and Clinics



MICHAEL CICCOTTI, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Yale University
MEDICAL SCHOOL: Jefferson Medical College
RESIDENCY: Jefferson Medical College/Rothman Institute



TJ RIDLEY, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Gustavus Adolphus College
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Iowa
RESIDENCY: University of Minnesota



JOSEPH COOPER, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Washington University in St. Louis
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Illinois College of Medicine
RESIDENCY: University of Southern California



JOSEPH RUZBARSKY, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Pennsylvania
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Pennsylvania
RESIDENCY: Hospital for Special Surgery



DANIEL HABER, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Brigham Young University
MEDICAL SCHOOL: Dartmouth Medical School
RESIDENCY: Harvard Combined Orthopaedic Residency Program



MAX SEITER, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Texas at Austin
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
RESIDENCY: University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital

FOOT & ANKLE FELLOWS 2019-2020



MARISSA JAMIESON, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Rice University

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

RESIDENCY: The Ohio State University



KATIE BARTUSH, MD

UNDERGRADUATE: Southern Methodist University

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio

RESIDENCY: University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio

FELLOWSHIP: Andrews Sports Medicine Fellowship Program

HIP PRESERVATION & RECONSTRUCTION FELLOW 2019-2020



TIMOTHY BEALS, DO

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

MEDICAL SCHOOL: Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine

INTERNSHIP: Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center

RESIDENCY: The Hughston Clinic

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS 2019-2020



NAOMASA FUKASE, MD, PHD

MEDICAL SCHOOL: Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine

INTERNSHIP: Kobe University Hospital

POST-GRADUATE: Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine

JAPAN



KAARE MIDTGAARD, LTC, MD

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Bergen

RESIDENCY: Namsos Community Hospital/Oslo University Hospital

POST-GRADUATE: University of Oslo, Norway

NORWAY



PHILIP-CHRISTIAN NOLTE, MD, MA

MEDICAL SCHOOL: Johannes-Gutenberg University

GRADUATE SCHOOL: SRH University Riedlingen

RESIDENCY: Bad Duerkheim Hospital

GERMANY



YOICHI MURATA, MD, PHD

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Occupational and Environmental Health, School of Medicine

INTERNSHIP: Saiseikai Yahata General Hospital

POST-GRADUATE: University of Occupational and Environmental Health, School of Medicine

JAPAN



INGRID KVELLO STAKE, MD

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Oslo

RESIDENCY: Østfold Hospital

NORWAY

SPRI'S CLINICAL FELLOWS AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PARTICIPATE IN CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH DURING THEIR YEAR AT SPRI, AND THIS RESEARCH IS OFTEN HONORED WITH MAJOR SCIENTIFIC AWARDS.

In July 2019, a former international scholar and former clinical fellow won significant awards at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM) annual meeting. **Dr. Hajime Utsunomiya** was honored to receive the 2019 Cabaud Memorial Award, one of the top awards given in orthopaedics each year, and **Dr. Connor Ziegler** was awarded the Fellow Research Award for Basic Science. Dr. Utsunomiya was also awarded the Orthoregeneration Award from the Orthopaedic Research Society this year.

NEW ALUMNUS **DR. TRAVIS DEKKER** REFLECTS ON HIS “LIFE-ALTERING” YEAR AT SPRI



In July 2018, Dr. Travis Dekker joined SPRI as a sports medicine fellow, having recently completed his residency at Duke University. For Dr. Dekker, his arrival in Vail was the realization of a 14-year goal, one he set as a freshman in college at the Air Force Academy. Although he'd known that he was interested in medicine, it was an injury—a broken foot on the football field—that sparked an interest in orthopaedics, and the ambition to one day become a fellow at Steadman Philippon Research Institute.

After his injury, Dr. Dekker explained, “The orthopaedic surgeon who was my team physician taking care of me happened to be a graduate of this fellowship—JT Tokish. He saw me post-op one day and said, ‘Hey, I heard you’re interested in medicine. Have you ever thought specifically about what you’d be interested in?’ I said, ‘Well, my grandpa was a cardiologist,’ and he said, ‘Son, you will not be a cardiologist. You will be an orthopaedic surgeon.’”

This first conversation is what set Dr. Dekker’s sights on orthopaedics, specifically the ways it would benefit the patient population he’d be taking care of in the military. As for SPRI, Dr. Dekker said, “He [Dr. Tokish] also really put in my mind as a 19-year-old kid, that going to Vail, Colorado, being able to train with the best surgeons in the world and ski 30-45 days in one year, were the best times and best memories of his life. So at 19, I had the goal of wanting to be here for fellowship.”

In terms of getting that great ski season he dreamed about years ago, Colorado certainly delivered for Dr. Dekker this winter. But it wasn’t just about the skiing—Dr. Dekker noted that with a great snow year comes a busy trauma year. “It’s the beauty of having that continued education in trauma,” he explained. “There’s pretty much no other sports fellowship that offers a busy trauma experience to continue to polish and learn your trade, which is a fundamental aspect of every orthopaedic surgeon’s education and practice.”

Dr. Dekker feels fortunate that he was able to develop close relationships with each of the attending physicians while at SPRI. And his first mentor,

Dr. Tokish, was part of that. A close personal friend of Dr. Matt Provencher, Co-Director of the Sports Medicine Fellowship at SPRI, and fellowship classmate of Dr. Peter Millett, SPRI Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Tokish was an important connector for Dr. Dekker. Of his relationship with Dr. Provencher, Dr. Dekker explained, “we had the military connection, a lot of similar interests and life goals, and paths that crossed. . . and probably more important for me was bigger life insights, of how to be an academic surgeon, ask research questions. But also, how can I survive in the military, how can I make the most out of life in the military as an orthopaedic surgeon, for my family, for my career.”

In working with Dr. Millett, Dr. Dekker shared that he’d “never met a more precise surgeon in my ten years of medical training. He’s incredibly gifted surgeon, but that’s also because he is so detail oriented. And I think he carries his life that way—from the OR to the clinic, to his research—he’s very good about finding and picking apart the details to make everything that much better. A lot of takeaways from him—to provide the best care by being precise, and never passing over any detail.”

And while Dr. Dekker learned a lot in terms of surgical techniques from the faculty of elite surgeons, what has stayed with him throughout his experience is the relationships that he built with the physicians and their teams. “Working with the individual surgeons was amazing, and clearly career and life altering. And what I’ve taken away from them is that assembling the best support staff that you can will make your life better, make your life run more smoothly, it will make your patients’ lives better and it will make you a better surgeon and a better person overall. . . the support staff—they’re the special sauce to this place.”

Now stationed at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, Dr. Dekker is grateful for his year at SPRI. “Dr. Steadman built a unique and special place—this has been a 14-year dream for me to be here. And to be able to benefit from the training, the life lessons, just the systems that have been built on these giants of orthopaedics, I sure feel lucky. I hope to continue to build to that reputation and to this community, wherever I end up.”

“DR. STEADMAN BUILT A UNIQUE AND SPECIAL PLACE—THIS HAS BEEN A 14-YEAR DREAM FOR ME TO BE HERE.”