



## Science Finding Cures, Medicine Enhancing Lives

Delaying the Effects of Aging: Making History

W

*“We are on the cutting edge of advances that will change the lives of people in every stage of life, as well as the health of their children and grandchildren.” — Johnny Huard, Ph.D., March 2016*

With that bold statement, Dr. Huard, Chief Scientific Officer and Director of the Center for Regenerative Sports Medicine, established a positive tone, promised an expanded agenda, and set an exceptionally high bar for expectations.

Now, Dr. Huard and his colleagues are doing the complex, meticulous, time-consuming, and vital research needed to exceed those expectations. In doing so, they have positioned the Steadman Philippon Research Institute to enter the most exciting and productive period in its history.

### HELPING THE BODY HEAL ITSELF

The cutting-edge advances that Dr. Huard speaks about revolve around the concept of regenerative medicine. Regenerative medicine can address diseases, injuries, and congenital conditions by helping the body recreate cells, rebuild tissues, and repair organs—to, in effect, heal itself. The body may contain its own repair kit, but it needs science to unleash some of the tools inside.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Jamie Stanton: Top U.S. Paralympic Skier Turns Obstacles into Opportunities

> . . . . . P3

SPRI's Science Club Research Culminates Successful Fourth Year

> . . . . . P6

Great Advice Helped Shape Dr. Justin Mitchell's Career in Orthopaedics

> . . . . . P8

Save the date

> . . . . . P10



Now the possibility of delaying the effects of aging has a scientific body of evidence gathered by the most respected physicians and scientists in the world. About 20 of them are conducting their research at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute.

We know the body can regenerate certain organs because it's already happening. Skin is one example. It regenerates without our help. Cartilage is another. It does not regenerate itself, but it can be stimulated to grow, as SPRI researchers proved long ago.

Other organs and tissues may not be capable of regenerating at this point, but SPRI researchers are developing ways to get the process started.

#### DELAYING, PERHAPS REVERSING THE EFFECTS OF AGING

Of all the advances possible within the scope of regenerative medicine, one stands out because it holds such promise: delaying, or even reversing, the effects of aging. It is a concept that, for most of us, is hard to believe. We've heard "Fountain of Youth" stories before, and they weren't true.

Now the possibility of delaying the effects of aging has a scientific body of evidence gathered by the most respected physicians and scientists in the world. About 20 of them are conducting their research at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute.

"We are not trying to delay aging just for the sake of delaying aging," explains Dr. Huard. "We are trying to delay the

effects of age-related disorders such as osteoarthritis and osteoporosis. If we could do that, it would be a major contribution to the lives of our patients."

#### FOCUS ON STEM CELLS

Although regenerative medicine can involve many processes in which the body tries to heal itself, one of the main focuses of research has been stem cells. These cells

can be isolated, extracted, and cultured. Then they divide and produce specialized cells—bone, blood, or nerve, for example.

"It is a well-known fact that muscle-derived stem cells can differentiate into many tissues to help them regenerate," says Jorge Chahla, M.D., Regenerative Sports Medicine Fellow at SPRI. "With time, these stem cells start losing their regenerative potential. Our group has found that young stem cells have the

ability to rejuvenate old stem cells. This could improve the ability of those stem cells to repair and renew damaged tissue."

Although conducted at the animal study level, the most dramatic outcome of stem cell injection increased lifespan by approximately 48 percent. Needless to say, this finding was significant for future applications.

The use of stem cells to delay the effects of aging is not limited to joints, muscles, and bones. Dr. Huard's team has already been successful in using stem cells to repair heart tissue and to treat bladder dysfunction in women.

#### NOT JUST STEM CELLS

Delaying the effects of aging is not restricted to stem cell transplantation. Injecting biologics such as platelet-rich

plasma (PRP) may have similar effects. Dr. Huard, Dr. Marc Philippon, and Dr. Robert LaPrade are experimenting with a combination of PRP and the patient's own stem cells to accelerate the healing process. Other researchers are combining cells from the body with scaffold biomaterials to guide new growth. It's an example of tissue engineering.

#### FROM STEM CELLS TO ORTHOPAEDICS

Justin Mitchell, M.D., Sports Medicine Fellow at SPRI, makes the stem cell connection to orthopaedic sports medicine. "The basis of the regenerative medicine concept is individual cells. They make up various organs and tissues in the body, and the cells are similar to those in muscles, bones, and joints. We can take the lessons we've learned from other areas and apply them to orthopaedic medicine practiced in The Steadman Clinic and studied in the Steadman Philippon Research Institute."

"Regenerative sports medicine that expands to other health concerns is an adjunct to what is already going on here," says Dr. Mitchell. "Clinical and patient outcomes research are not going away. They are the foundation on which this institution has been built."

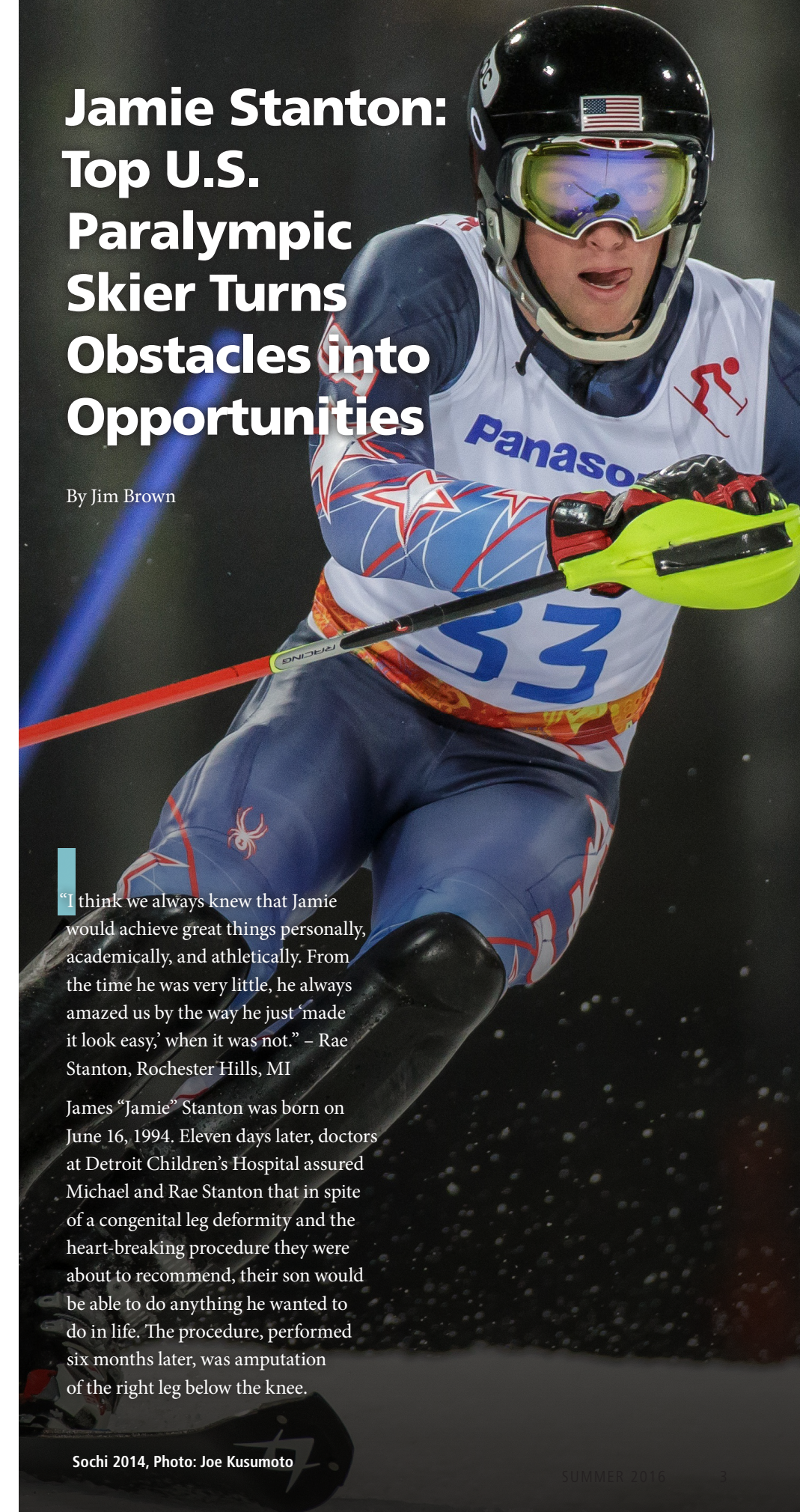
#### A RIPPLE EFFECT

"If musculoskeletal disease is slowed or if injuries are successfully repaired and rehabilitated, people can remain active longer," says Dr. Huard. "That reduces the risk of conditions associated with inactivity, such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, obesity, certain cancers, and even depression."

Muscle-derived stem cells are at the core of regenerative medicine, but the rapidly expanding field includes many other biologic approaches that allow the body to heal itself. Together, they have the capability of delaying the age-related effects of certain conditions now and the potential for having the same effect on many others in the future.

## Jamie Stanton: Top U.S. Paralympic Skier Turns Obstacles into Opportunities

By Jim Brown



"I think we always knew that Jamie would achieve great things personally, academically, and athletically. From the time he was very little, he always amazed us by the way he just 'made it look easy,' when it was not." — Rae Stanton, Rochester Hills, MI

James "Jamie" Stanton was born on June 16, 1994. Eleven days later, doctors at Detroit Children's Hospital assured Michael and Rae Stanton that in spite of a congenital leg deformity and the heart-breaking procedure they were about to recommend, their son would be able to do anything he wanted to do in life. The procedure, performed six months later, was amputation of the right leg below the knee.

Sochi 2014, Photo: Joe Kusumoto

The doctors were right. Today, Jamie is 21 years old, 6-1, 175 pounds—an elite athlete still adding muscle mass—doing one of the things he wants to do in the world of sports. He is a senior finance major attending the University of Denver on a five-year, full scholarship based on character, academic excellence, and athletic performance. At the start of the 2015-2016, he was ranked the number one Paralympic skier in the United States.

“My parents encouraged me and pushed me out of my comfort zone,” says Jamie. “My outlook on life and my ability to compete at a high level are because of their influence and guidance.”

In which sport would his parents have thought Jamie might reach world-class status?

“I thought it would have been hockey,” says Mrs. Stanton. “One of his ski coaches told us that Jamie had very quick feet. We all agreed that it had to be due to all of those years Jamie spent on ice skates.”

“It would not have been skiing,” adds Mike Stanton. “When he was about 12, Jamie and all of his friends were into snowboarding.”

“I definitely thought it would have been golf,” says Jamie.

No family consensus on that topic.

*“I think we always knew that Jamie would achieve great things personally, academically, and athletically. From the time he was very little, he always amazed us by the way he just ‘made it look easy,’ when it was not.”*

– Rae Stanton,  
Rochester Hills, MI

## THINGS CHANGED AT 16

Stanton had never considered a future in competitive skiing until he entered the Michigan Adaptive Sports Skiing State Championships in 2011. He won his event by more than eight seconds, which is almost unheard of in races usually determined by hundredths of a second. He won again the next year.

“When that happened, I knew I had a chance at doing something special,” he recalls.

Other people were noticing, too. Set to enroll at Michigan State, Jamie got a call from Chris Smitz, a coach at the National Sports Center. “It changed my life,” he says. Smitz told him about the Willy Schaeffler Scholarship for disabled athletes at Denver, and suggested that he apply. He did, and in June 2012 was awarded the scholarship.

In 2013, Stanton won two events at the National Championships in Park City, Utah. He was named to the U.S. National Team and later qualified for the 2014 U.S. Paralympic Ski Team.

Next stop: the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. Jamie was 19 years old.

“He never ceases to amaze me,” says Rae Stanton. “As an underdog with very little international experience, he placed sixth in the Super-G event.”

Stanton’s athletic ability runs in the family. Michael Stanton was a hockey player; Rae was a gymnast and now skis. Brittney, Jamie’s sister, was a skier in high school and an equestrian athlete in college. His younger brother, Jonathan, played lacrosse and is now making a name for himself as a high school golfer.

## THEN HE CRASHED

“On Thursday, February 24, 2016, I crashed the first day of competition at the IPC World Cup Final in Aspen,” says Stanton. “I thought I had sprained my ankle, taped it up, and raced all day on the 25th, but I knew something wasn’t right.”

He had broken his ankle in two places,

had a small piece of bone broken off his tibia, and had a torn ligament. He was taken to see Dr. Thomas Clanton at The Steadman Clinic in Vail the following Monday. Dr. Clanton is an internationally recognized orthopaedic surgeon and foot/ankle specialist who has treated some of the world’s most famous athletes.

“I had heard of The Steadman Clinic because other skiers had gone there and it’s a medical center where Olympic athletes go for treatment,” says Stanton. The Steadman Clinic/Steadman Philippon Research Institute is one of three U.S. Olympic Committee-designated Medical Centers in the country.

“My mom and I got there early to get a feel for the place. We saw pictures of athletes who had been treated there—famous basketball players, hockey players, football players, Olympians.

We looked at each other and smiled, and I thought, “Yeah, I’m going to be in good hands.”

## DR. CLANTON WAS AWESOME

“Dr. Clanton was absolutely awesome from the first time I met him. He was very calm when he walked into the room to explain the surgical procedures. The tests showed that the foot and ankle were worse than they originally thought, and I was scheduled for surgery later that day.”

“When Dr. Clanton came in just before surgery,” says Jamie, “he said a short prayer that gave me a calm sense about what was going to happen.”

Jamie’s description of the procedures Dr. Clanton performed: “Cleaned out the area; put two screws in the talus; used two pins and wiring to repair the syndesmosis. (The talus is the ankle bone; the syndesmosis is the point just above the ankle where the two bones of the lower leg meet.)

Since his surgery, Stanton has been rehabbing at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs and at Physiotherapy Associates in Denver. He was scheduled for

an appointment with Dr. Clanton on May 17.

“If it goes well, I should be able to resume regular activities that afternoon. The prognosis is a complete recovery. I’m excited that I’ll be back to normal in a few weeks, working out, and getting ready for next season.”

## THE PLACE TO GO

“The Steadman Clinic/Steadman Philippon Research Institute is definitely the place to go if you have any type of orthopaedic injury,” advises Stanton. “I would recommend them every time. They know what they are doing better than anyone I’ve ever seen. The hospitality there is unbelievable. They put the patient first and want you to make a 100 percent recovery as soon as possible.”

## DOES HE HAVE “WHY ME” MOMENTS?

“Yes, but in a good way. Sometimes I realize that I’ve been dealt kind of a short hand, but in the long run, I overcame

it and am ready to see what’s next.”

His short-term goal is to qualify for and “podium” in the next Winter Paralympic Games in Korea (2018). After that, he’ll take off a year to decide whether he wants to continue competitive skiing or start a new life on Wall Street in New York. Stanton thinks big.

His message to other disabled children and adults: “The number one thing is to never give up or lose hope. Keep a positive attitude about everything in life, even if you are dealt a bad hand. You can overcome obstacles and ultimately achieve your goal. If I can do it, you can too.”

When some athletes suffer a devastating physical setback they consider it, in a way, the end of their lives. Jamie Stanton was born with a condition that would understandably devastate most athletes and their families. He and his family made sure that his life, including competing at the highest level of sports, was just beginning.



Jamie Stanton competing in the IPC (International Paralympic Committee) World Cup, St. Moritz, Switzerland, January 23, 2016. Photo: Marcus Hartmann

## Dr. Thomas Clanton's Foot and Ankle Research Translates into Improved Surgical Treatment

When U.S. National Paralympic Ski Team member Jamie Stanton suffered multiple injuries to his left foot and ankle, the orthopaedic surgeon referred by U.S. Paralympics was Dr. Thomas Clanton.

Dr. Clanton has gained an international reputation through his foot and ankle research conducted at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute and his treatment of some of the world’s best-known athletes at The Steadman Clinic.

In Stanton’s case, a broken ankle and a syndesmosis injury (more commonly known as a high ankle sprain) were diagnosed by Dr. Clanton and repaired during surgery earlier this year. Stanton is expected to resume training within the next few weeks.

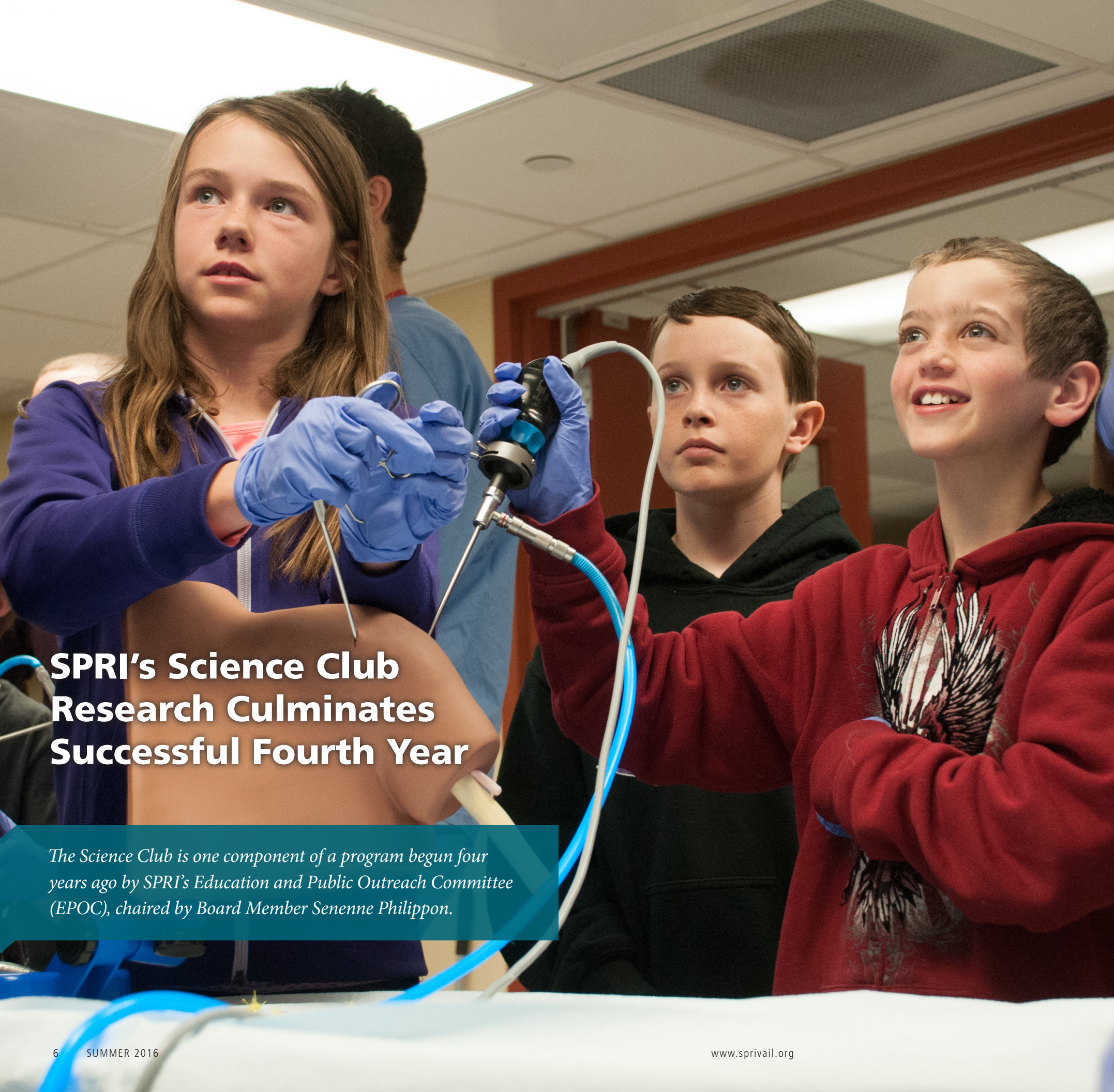
Treating syndesmosis injuries is another example of SPRI research translating into practical application that benefits Steadman Clinic patients and others around the world.

Dr. Clanton is currently studying ways to improve surgical treatment by validating repair techniques using a robotic testing platform in cases of syndesmosis injuries, lateral (outside) ankle sprains, and medial (inside) ankle sprains.

He is also investigating changes in ankle joint pressure points caused by injuries or by subsequent repairs and reconstructions. As displacements (dislocations) occur within the joint, significant changes can occur in contact areas and in pressure between bones. These changes in loading patterns can potentially lead to osteoarthritis later in life.

Other research projects recently completed by Dr. Clanton and his colleagues have included research on turf toe injuries and osteochondral injuries (tears or fractures in the cartilage covering a bone in the ankle joint). Future projects include testing various methods for Achilles repair and evaluating the motion involved after total ankle replacements.





## SPRI's Science Club Research Culminates Successful Fourth Year

*The Science Club is one component of a program begun four years ago by SPRI's Education and Public Outreach Committee (EPOC), chaired by Board Member Senenne Philippon.*

**S**tudents from four Vail area high schools presented their Steadman Philippon Research Institute Science Club projects to wrap up the 2015-2016 academic year, according to Kelly Stoycheff, SPRI's Fellowship & Education Coordinator.

The Science Club is one component of a program begun four years ago by SPRI's Education and Public Outreach Committee (EPOC), chaired by Board Member Senenne Philippon. The goal has been to inspire elementary, middle, and high school students to become more involved in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

"We start with fifth grade students because they're not afraid to ask questions, and they have a ton of questions," says Mrs. Philippon. "You never know where this is going to take them."

When Mrs. Philippon first approached physicians at The Steadman Clinic and scientists at SPRI about sharing their expertise and resources, more than 20 volunteered to participate, and even more have participated in the program since.

"The brain power here at SPRI is amazing," she says. "It's great that students have these mentors."

### PROGRESSIVE LEVELS OF INVOLVEMENT

Fifth grade students enter EPOC's program by taking tours of SPRI's laboratories. The tours are interactive and students get hands-on experience with surgical tools and artificial bones used by the physicians and scientists. As many as 80 fifth-graders have participated in tours in a single day.

Sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders enjoy classroom and assembly lectures, get support for science-related projects, and are mentored in preparing for school science fairs and a robotics competition.

For students at Vail Christian High School, Vail Mountain School, Vail Ski and Snowboard Academy, Battle Mountain High School, and Eagle Valley High School, the program culminates with membership in the Science Club. Two ninth-to-twelfth-grade representatives from each participating school are selected by their science teachers. Each team chooses a theme to guide its research and defines its own question within the club's theme.

### THIS YEAR'S INVESTIGATIONS

Among the research projects conducted this school year were investigations into gait analysis using a shoe-integrated pressure sensor system, anatomical aspects of contact pressure in the knee joint, the effect of injuries on the ability to perform yoga poses, and mechanical properties of synthetic tendons.

The two-person research teams spent the entire academic year communicating with and working beside researchers, engineers, and physicians at SPRI.

Membership in the club can become a gateway to research and orthopaedic education, as well as a professional experience for students interested in related fields. Vail Mountain School's Kaylie Evans graduated this year and has enrolled at Elon University in North Carolina. She will major in pre-med and aspires to be an orthopaedic surgeon.

The EPOC Science Club is an example of how The Steadman Clinic and the Steadman Philippon Research Institute work together to enhance the education of people at the local, national, and international levels.



# Great Advice Helped Shape Dr. Justin Mitchell's Career in Orthopaedics

By Jim Brown

Never underestimate the influence on a young person's life of a teacher, coach, or in Justin Mitchell's case, a high school athletic trainer.

Mitchell was 16 and a three-sport letterman at Oshkosh (WI) West High School with a 4.0 grade point average. He told Dan Gehri, his trainer, about his interest in sports, sports injuries, and being part of the athletic community, and asked what Mr. Gehri thought about his career options.

"With your grades, you should think about being an orthopaedic surgeon," said Gerhi.

"Okay, I'll look into it," said Mitchell, and he did.

"It was the best advice I was ever given," says Justin Mitchell, M.D., now a graduate of the Medical College of Wisconsin who is completing a year of training as an

Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Fellow at SPRI. "Here we are 15 years later, and I'm very happy with the decision I made to go into medicine and very appreciative of Dan Gehri's confidence in my potential."

It would not be the only time Dr. Mitchell's career path would be affected by a person or an experience in the education or medical communities.

## STARTED EARLY

"I had an interest in helping people, so I volunteered to work in the emergency department of a hospital while I was still in high school and during my first year or two of college. I really became interested in medicine in the hospital setting. I liked working with people who had come into the hospital in distress and being able to help them work through a difficult situation."

"I also had an early affinity for orthopaedics



because it was about muscular and skeletal injuries, often in people who were active and wanted to remain active throughout their lives," says Dr. Mitchell. "I have to admit that I also liked the idea of being on the sideline during games."

## COOLEST COURSE EVER

"As prepared as I thought I was for the University of Wisconsin, I was not," says Dr. Mitchell. "I got a 'C' on my first chemistry test and thought maybe I wasn't cut out for this. But at the same time, I was taking a comparative anatomy course, which at the time, I thought was about the coolest course ever."

"I liked the classroom and the hands-on experience. That course definitely cinched it for me. A year later, they offered me an opportunity to be a teaching assistant in the same course." (He graduated with a double major in zoology and biology.)

During a medical school summer research internship, Dr. Mitchell assisted in an operating room and it was "eye-opening." He saw the practical application of orthopaedics and the importance of research, both of which moved him a step closer to a career in sports medicine.

## THE PLACE TO BE

After earning his medical degree at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Dr. Mitchell began his residency the University of Colorado. A friend in med school knew of Mitchell's interest in orthopaedics

and sports medicine and said, "You should go to The Steadman Clinic."

"To be honest, I had never heard of it," says Dr. Mitchell. "But when he pulled the website up and showed me what they were doing and who the doctors were, I knew that was the place I wanted to go. That was in 2009."

"By the time I was an intern, I was keenly aware of Dr. Steadman and all of the other world class physicians and scientists at SPRI," says Dr. Mitchell. "Their papers were more or less required reading for anyone interested in orthopaedics or sports medicine."

## WASN'T SURE HE COULD GET IN

"I wasn't sure I would be able to get a fellowship at SPRI," recalls Dr. Mitchell. "An advisor told me I might not have the research background to do the work required at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute."

"That definitely motivated me. I think it has driven me to do as much research as possible because I want patients to have confidence in my training or background. This experience has enabled me to understand the importance of research and the impact it can have on treating patients."

Dr. Mitchell credits his parents, Jim and Lori Mitchell, for his drive. Jim founded and built his own insurance company from the ground up. Lori is a retired Air Wisconsin/United Express flight attendant and now works with Jim in their agency.

Dr. Mitchell also inherited his parents' passion for sports. The Mitchells are Green Bay Packers season ticket holders. Enough said.

## DRIVE PAID OFF

"From the time I began interviewing for the position at SPRI, it was clear to me that that there is no other place in the world where so many surgeons and

*"Dr. Mitchell is a solid, hard-working sports medicine specialist. He will thrive in his new job in La Crosse and I am sure he will be a leader in complex sports injuries who will make us proud."*

— Robert LaPrade, M.D., Ph.D., The Steadman Clinic

scientists are on the cutting edge of surgical and non-surgical interventions. They are not doing things that were done ten years ago. In fact, they can take something that may have been an unknown a few months ago and turn it into a known that can benefit a patient."

"They have resources, information, and the ability to execute those resources and information rapidly. The level of collaboration is something you'll never see elsewhere."

Dr. Mitchell was awarded an Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Fellowship at SPRI and began his one-year appointment in

## A MELTING POT OF KNOWLEDGE

"The Steadman Clinic and the Steadman Philippon Research Institute represent a kind of melting pot of knowledge," says Dr. Mitchell. "I feel incredibly lucky to have been part of it. All of the great minds and the cutting-edge research revolve around one thing—improving the individual care of each patient. That is what I will take away from my experience."

After a four-week trip to Southeast Asia, Dr. Mitchell and his wife, Laura, will move to La Crosse, Wisconsin. Mrs. Mitchell is a nurse and recently completed a Master of Science degree

*"Dr. Mitchell's passion and commitment to research have not only advanced the knowledge in our field, but also earned him the honor of presenting our work at international meetings. He will be a great ambassador for SPRI and will have a significant impact on the quality of orthopaedic care his patients in Wisconsin will receive."*

— Peter J. Millett, M.D., M.Sc., The Steadman Clinic

August 2015. When he arrived, he had published ten articles in professional journals. By the time he completes his responsibilities in July, he will have co-authored and submitted more than 50 papers for peer review in the world's most respected journals.

from the University of Colorado. She will take a position as a Family Nurse Practitioner in the La Crosse area.

Dr. Mitchell will join the orthopaedic sports medicine staff at Gunderson Lutheran Hospital, which is affiliated with the University of Wisconsin.



- Save the Date • August 18-20 -



Marc J. Philippon, M.D., Johnny Huard, Ph.D

## 2nd Annual Vail Scientific Summit Set for August 18-20

The 2016 Vail Scientific Summit will be held August 18-20 at the Vail Mountain Resort & Spa in Vail, Colorado, according to Dr. Johnny Huard, Chief Scientific Officer at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute.

Building on the momentum of last year's inaugural Scientific Summit, a select group of internationally known surgeons and scientists from around the country will gather to collaborate and present their latest findings regarding the impact that regenerative medicine is having on the scientific community and patient care.

The speakers at the conference will represent some of the top U.S. universities and medical institutions, including Harvard, the Mayo Clinic, Northwestern University, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Washington University in St. Louis, and many others.



- Save the Date • September 22 -



## Steadman Philippon Golf Tournament

### The Medequip 2016 Steadman Philippon Research Institute Golf Classic Presented by RE/MAX International Set for September 22, 2016

Proceeds will support the orthopaedic and regenerative sports medicine research and educational programs of the Steadman Philippon Research Institute.

The team event, held at Sanctuary Golf Course in Sedalia, Colorado, just south of Denver, will include a shotgun start with a modified scramble. The tournament is open to the public. Sanctuary organizes and hosts charitable events to support organizations devoted to the arts, children, health care, and crisis management.

Since 2004, the Institute has raised more than \$1.4 million from this golf tournament to support its orthopaedic and regenerative sports medicine research

programs. Renowned course architect Jim Engh, Golf Digest's first-ever "Architect of the Year," designed the course that protects a private oasis of 220 acres, effectively complementing the 40,000 surrounding acres of dedicated open space.

The Steadman Philippon Research Institute is grateful to Dave and Gail Liniger, owners and co-founders of RE/MAX, LLC., who built this course and created this unique fundraising opportunity for the Institute to develop and enhance relationships with those who support our mission.

Sponsorship opportunities and team slots are available now. More information can

be obtained by calling the Development office at 970 479-5781. To request an invitation or for more information on other upcoming events, please contact John McMurtry at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute, 970 479-5781 or [mcmurtry@sprivail.org](mailto:mcmurtry@sprivail.org).



- Save the Date • October 28 -

## SPRI to Host "The Olympic Experience" in Colorado Springs

The Steadman Philippon Research Institute will host "The Olympic Experience," a fundraising event at the USOC Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs on October 28, 2016. SPRI's guests are invited to attend the event to learn more about The Steadman Clinic, SPRI's designation as a USOC National Medical Center, and how SPRI's involvement helps TEAM USA.

Guests will have the opportunity to meet TEAM USA athletes who will have participated in the Rio de Janeiro Summer Games and to learn more about how sports medicine science

helps keep elite and recreational athletes active throughout their lives.

The full-day event will include an Opening Ceremony with Torch Lighting and Champagne Toast, interactive VIP tours of the Olympic Training Center, lunch with an athlete and physician panel, and a cocktail reception and auction.

If you have questions or want more information about "The Olympic Experience," please contact Lynda Sampson, Director of External Relations for The Steadman Clinic and SPRI at: 970-479-1563 [lsampson@sprivail.org](mailto:lsampson@sprivail.org). Formal invitations will be sent later this summer.





# SPRI Gives Back to the Community

## Steadman Philippon's Education and Public Outreach Committee—EPOC—Develops the Next Generation of Home-Grown Scientists

For more than 25 years, the Steadman Philippon Research Institute has attracted physicians and scientists from all over the world. Now, SPRI is growing them in its own back yard.

SPRI staff members, scientists, and physicians have been involved in the Vail Valley community since the Institute moved to Vail in 1990. That involvement reached a new level when the Institute's EPOC began a program to inspire elementary, middle, and high school students to become more involved in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

## Since 2013, SPRI's Education and Public Outreach Committee has impacted 1,773 students

The three-tiered program has been developed in partnership with the Eagle County School District, Vail Mountain School, and Vail Christian Academy.

Since 2013, EPOC has:

- Given tours of SPRI laboratories to 678 fifth grade students from 10 elementary schools
- Lectured and judged science fairs for 1,090 middle school students
- Mentored and inspired 25 students from five high schools as members of the SPRI Science Club



STEADMAN PHILIPPON RESEARCH INSTITUTE™

181 West Meadow Drive  
Suite 1000  
Vail, Colorado 81657


970-479-9797  
970-479-9753 FAX  
[www.sprivail.org](http://www.sprivail.org)

*Building our legacy of excellence in orthopaedic sports medicine, SPRI is unlocking the secrets of healing, finding cures and enhancing lives through global leadership in regenerative medicine, scientific research, innovation and education.*

**Executive Editor:**  
Jim Brown, Ph.D.

**Consulting Editor:**  
Erin Thacker, Ph.D.

*Your Legacy, Our Future. Please remember Steadman Philippon Research Institute in your will, trust, or other estate plan.*

 Like us on Facebook.