

# EDUCATION UPDATE

A Closer Look at SPRI's Robust Education Programs



FALL/WINTER 2018

SPRI Co-Chairs Dr. Marc J. Philippon and Dr. J. Richard Steadman meet a 2018 SPRI Summer Scholar

### **Education and Steadman Philippon Research Institute**

Each year, Steadman Philippon Research Institute (SPRI) educates more than 1,000 individuals from elementary school through career professionals. The multifaceted approach to education includes elite clinical fellowships and appointments for international scholars, inspiring youth engagement programs, lecture series throughout the year and much more.

In this edition of *SPRI News*, we'd like to update you on our education programs, new class of fellows and scholars and share a closer look at our newest youth course: the Summer Scholars Program.

#### **YOUTH EDUCATION**

Founded in 2011 by Senenne Philippon, youth education programs are a hallmark of SPRI's education initiatives. SPRI's youth program offerings include tours for local fifth grade students, which feature visits to SPRI's state-of-the-art Biomotion, Regenerative Medicine, Robotics and Surgical Skills laboratories. For students in middle school, SPRI researchers travel to schools for interactive sessions and participate in judging local science fair projects.

After being selected by their high school science teachers, ten local juniors and seniors participate in a year-long Science Club, performing hands-on research. The high school programs have expanded to include a Summer Scholars program, providing an intensive Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) course to students.

#### **COLLEGIATE EDUCATION**

SPRI offers unique opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Each year, fifteen or more college or medical students work in research assistantships (representing 35% of SPRI's workforce). They co-author publications for high-impact journals and attend SPRI's nationally acclaimed academic conferences.

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#### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

Members of Eagle County and SPRI benefactors have enrichment opportunities at SPRI. They enjoy tours of SPRI's leading-edge laboratories—Biomotion, Regenerative Medicine, Robotics, and Surgical Skills. Community members and benefactors can participate in research studies and attend SPRI's academic conferences, including the Injury Prevention Symposium and Vail Scientific Summit.

#### **PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

SPRI's elite clinical fellowships and international scholarships are the hallmark of professional education at SPRI. Additionally, through meetings and academic symposiums, SPRI reaches more than 400 professionals in the fields of orthopaedics, sports medicine, regenerative medicine and more each year. The conferences serve as professional development, continuing education and tremendous networking opportunities for all participants.



### **Homecoming for a Gifted Surgeon**

Former fellow Dr. Haytmanek becomes a surgeon at The Steadman Clinic and faculty member for SPRI fellowship



When Dr. C. Thomas Haytmanek was in medical school, he trained with Steadman picks when he was learning the microfracture surgery technique.

The Steadman name was always around from his initial surgeries as an intern, and he soon learned that there was much more to Steadman than the instruments he trained with. "It's a very unique and very famous place within orthopaedic surgery and when I learned there was a Foot and Ankle Fellowship, I thought it was intriguing. The other things that are done here—and really Dr. Steadman's legacy—is to create better patient outcomes. I think what drew me to this fellowship was the ability to be on that cutting edge."

Dr. Haytmanek was a member of the 2013–2014 SPRI class of clinical fellows and joined The Steadman Clinic in 2017 as an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in foot and ankle surgery.

#### A LIFE-CHANGING PHONE CALL

After his fellowship, Dr. Haytmanek practiced at the Coughlin Clinic in Boise, Idaho. But the surgeon always hoped he might return to work at The Steadman Clinic. "I hoped there would be an opportunity to come back; it's such a unique place." Dr. Haytmanek explained that it all started to fall into place with a phone call from his Steadman mentor, Dr. Thomas Clanton.

"I almost didn't answer his phone call! He calls really late at night. So, 10 o'clock at night I get a phone call, and we usually talk about research. So we chit-chatted about research and then he said, 'I have something else to talk to you about.' I said, 'what's up?' He said, 'I think I need someone else to join me, and I think you're the guy.' And, quite frankly, I was speechless for a few seconds; I didn't know what to say. It was a phone call I'll never forget." "You can find places where you do a ton of clinical volume; you can find places where you spend a bunch of time doing research, but here, with everything in such close proximity—it just works better than anywhere else."

#### TEACHING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SURGEONS

Now a member of the Foot and Ankle Team with Dr. Clanton, Dr. Haytmanek became a faculty member for the same Foot and Ankle Fellowship in which he participated just a few years ago. As an alumnus and faculty member, Dr. Haytmanek is distinctly positioned to speak to the elite SPRI program: "The fellowship is very unique. It's unique among other fellowships in the country because of the ability to do research, the ability to have unlimited access to the Surgical Skills Lab and to interact with the attendings. It's really the juncture of all of these things that creates a unique experience. You can find places where you do a ton of clinical volume; you can find places where you spend a bunch of time doing research, but here, with everything in such close proximity—it just works better than anywhere else."

As a faculty member for the fellowship, Dr. Haytmanek reflected on his experience so far. "Watching the fellows progress through the year is very rewarding. When they start, they know a little bit about surgery, but are not confident and are not able to create complex treatment plans. By the end of the year, they're able to articulate exactly what the problem is and how they'd attack it and create a treatment plan. It's a lot of fun to watch that progression through the year."

#### LEARNING FROM HIS STUDENTS

Dr. Haytmanek views his experience as an attending faculty member not only as a teacher, but also as a student. Of the fellows, he said, "they always ask good questions. They ask you why you do things certain ways, and you have to have a good explanation. It keeps you constantly reevaluating what you think, reevaluating why you do things and continually improving. You learn as much from them as they learn from you, and I think that's really because of the questions they ask."

Now an established surgeon and teacher in Vail, Dr. Haytmanek feels fortunate he received the opportune phone call from his mentor a few years ago. "It's just a wonderful place to be. I always hoped to someday be able to come back. It's really fun to do it, and just a few years later. It's really a great honor."



Dr. C. Thomas Haytmanek works with fellow Dr. Christopher Larkins in the operating room

## Fellows and Scholars Continue SPRI Legacy

Each year, ten young surgeons are selected for SPRI's clinical fellowships, including Sports Medicine, Foot & Ankle and Adult Reconstruction. In addition, physicians from around the globe join SPRI as international scholars. Both groups spend an intensive 12 months working toward one goal-to expand their

knowledge to help patients heal better and faster. When fellows and scholars leave Vail, they take with them the innovations SPRI is known for. Applying their newfound knowledge, they're spreading a new standard of care worldwide.

#### SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWS 2018-2019



#### DAVID BERNHOLDT, MD Education:

- Case Western Reserve University (undergraduate)
- Johns Hopkins University (medical school) Residency:
- Washington University



#### MATTHEW CRAWFORD, MD Education:

- University of North Carolina: Chapel Hill (undergraduate) • University of California: San Francisco (medical school)
- Residency:
- Duke University



#### **TRAVIS DEKKER, MD** Education:

- United States Air Force Academy (undergraduate)
- Georgetown University (medical school) Residency:
- Duke University

#### WILLIAM "JEFF" GRANTHAM, MD Education:

- St. John's University (undergraduate)
- Columbia University (medical school) Residency:
- Vanderbilt University Medical Center





#### BRIAN SAMUELSEN, MD Education:

- Union College (undergraduate)
- Union University (graduate)
- Temple University (medical school)
- Residency:
- Mayo Clinic

#### WILLIAM SCHAIRER, MD Education:

- University of California: Berkeley (undergraduate) • University of California: San Francisco (medical school)
- Residency:
- Hospital for Special Surgery

#### FOOT & ANKLE FELLOWS 2018-2019



#### **CHRISTOPHER LARKINS, MD** Education:

- Arizona State University (undergraduate)
- Arizona College of Medicine (medical school) Residency:
- UT Health San Antonio



#### **ERIK NOTT, MD**

- Education:
- University of South Dakota (undergraduate)
- University of Kansas (medical school)
- Residency:
- UT Health San Antonio

#### ADULT RECONSTRUCTION FELLOWS 2018-2019





#### **INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS 2018-2019**





#### DIMITRI DELAGRAMMATICAS, MD Education: • University of California Polytechnic

- (undergraduate, graduate)
- Georgetown University (medical school)
- Residency:
- Northwestern University

#### JOSH ROZELL, MD

#### Education:

- Emory University (undergraduate)
- Drexel University (medical school)
- Residency:
  - University of Pennsylvania

### LUCCA LACHETA, MD

- Education:
- University of Bern, Switzerland (undergraduate)
- University of Bern, Switzerland (medical school) Residency:
- Technical University of Munich, Germany

#### MARC STRAUSS, MD Education:

- University of Southern Denmark (undergraduate)
- University of Southern Denmark (medical school) Residency:
- Vejle County Hospital and Odense University Hospital





### **A New Program Reaches More Local Students**

First Summer Scholars Program a Huge Success



The first-ever Summer Scholars with SPRI Co-Chairs Dr. Marc J. Philippon and Dr. J. Richard Steadman outside of SPRI's Biomotion Lab

SPRI's education programs have included a high school science club for years, which hosted ten local students in a year-long program that engaged with SPRI's scientists. But SPRI wanted to reach more students, and created a brand-new program designed for rising high school juniors and seniors during their summer break. The Summer Scholars program, a week-long immersive science and medicine course, launched in June 2018 for 20 students from Eagle County.

#### NEW STUDENTS GET TO KNOW SPRI

When the program was announced, Vail Christian student Gretchen Pavelich was excited at the opportunity. "My teacher told me about this, and I was like 'sign me up!' I've always been interested in the research at SPRI because people at my school have always been a part of it and I wanted to try it. It's so interesting—you get to create research and then...try it out! It's so cool."

Gretchen and fellow Summer Scholar Gustavo Oroña both were excited to join the Summer Scholars program because of an interest in medicine. Looking back on his experience, Gustavo said that the course "assured me that I wanted to do medicine. I want to be a PT right now, but I saw other possibilities, like I could be a surgeon or a PA, even an athletic trainer. I saw all these other careers that have potential for me."

#### A ONE-OF-A-KIND EXPERIENCE

During their week on campus, students rotate through SPRI's laboratories and participate in research. The students even get to observe a live surgery in the operating room with The Steadman Clinic's top surgeons, including Managing Partner and SPRI Co-Chair Dr. Marc Philippon. Gretchen shared, "I'd never seen a surgery before and it was so cool. The doctors were so open to us—I was asking all these questions to Dr. Philippon and he was answering me...it was awesome."

Both students shared that their time in SPRI's Surgical Skills Lab was especially rewarding. "We got to see cadavers," Gustavo shared, "and how the doctors practice their surgeries. To see people working on their skills in there—it's really cool." Gretchen had such a great time working with a shoulder joint that she and her friends returned to the lab at the end of the day, where SPRI researchers worked with the students for another hour and a half. "They were dissecting the shoulder and showing us everything! It was such a great experience."

Both students enjoyed their time as Summer Scholars, remarking that now they were sure they'd pursue a career in science and medicine. When asked if it was worth giving up a week of her summer, Gretchen affirmed, "it was the highlight of my summer."

#### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

After such a successful launch of the new program, SPRI hopes to expand its Summer Scholars program so even more students can participate next summer. In a nation where high school students quickly lose interest in STEM, SPRI sees itself as a true leader in education that can inspire young students to find a passion in science and medicine.