

Letter from the Administrative Chiefs

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Being chief residents this year has been a transformative experience. Between the ongoing COVID pandemic, the rapid growth of our faculty, and the day-to-day vicissitudes of running one of the largest residency programs in the country, this has been a year of continued challenges and achievements. It hasn't always been easy, but it's been a fantastic opportunity for us to develop our leadership skills and forge closer relationships with our faculty and co-residents, and we're extremely grateful for the experience. We would like to thank Drs. Levin, Farber, Liu and Moretti for their support and guidance throughout the year. We wish Dr. Moretti the best of luck in his new position in Texas and welcome Dr. Liu, who stepped in to seamlessly guide the program forward as the new assistant program director. His longstanding experience as a former resident and current faculty member is incredibly valuable and we are lucky to have him as part of the leadership team. We would also like to thank all of the rest of the faculty and all our coresidents for their tireless hard work and drive to make Penn orthopaedics better every day.

We have achieved several notable new initiatives this year to make this an even better residency program. After the lull of COVID restrictions, we have resumed our in-person cadaver labs and are gradually returning to a full schedule, including both grand rounds and extracurricular labs. We began an exciting educational partnership with Stryker, who are using our residency as one of only 3 pilot programs across the country to create a robust extracurricular educational schedule. To date, we have had multiple labs focusing on arthroscopy and arthroplasty with upcoming sessions on trauma, spine and upper extremity scheduled for the remainder of the academic year. These labs have given us a chance to forge deeper relationships with our co-residents and faculty outside of the formal work setting and obtain more hands-on time learning surgical techniques and approaches. We are grateful to the faculty who have volunteered their time to teach us at these sessions.

Additionally, we were able to resume our in-person visiting professor curriculum and learn from the best and brightest minds in the field of orthopaedics. Our speakers travelled from all over the country to educate us not only on the latest surgical developments, but also on important issues in leadership and diversity, areas in which Penn continues to blaze at the forefront of the orthopaedic community. We are grateful to all of the amazing educators who came to visit our department and share their knowledge.

Speaking of leadership, our department continued to innovate by establishing the inaugural Wharton Leadership Coaching program for selected PGY4 and 5 residents. This initiative paired residents with an executive coach from the Wharton School who helped us grow as leaders during the year. This program was transformational for our residents and is yet another unique way in which Penn Orthopaedics helps its residents grow both personally and professionally during their training. We would like to thank all of the involved Wharton faculty and staff, and Dr. John Kelly in particular, for spearheading this program and raising the funds necessary to maintain it for next year as well.

As we hand over the reins to the next class of chief residents, we'd like to extend sincere gratitude to our co-residents and faculty who make every day a rewarding learning experience at Penn. We hope we have served you well during this year and are honored to have been included among the pantheon of chief residents at this program. We are optimistic about the continued growth of the residency and look forward to continuing to participate as alumni as we move on to fellowship and beyond.