The Poggi Pediatric Orthopaedic Research Fellowship

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The Poggi Fellowship Award

Award Details:
The John’s Hopkins Poggi Pediatric Orthopaedic Research Scholar Award promotes clinical research by giving extraordinary medical students the opportunity to investigate pertinent topics in clinical orthopaedic research at The Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Baltimore, MD. While there are several funded year-out programs for medical students to conduct research, this award is unique as it is specifically designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in orthopaedic surgery. The Poggi Fellowship focuses on giving the medical student clinical research opportunities, advanced orthopaedic skills through weekly clinical exposure, and mentoring for residency applications and beyond.

Department of Pediatric Orthopaedics at The Johns Hopkins Hospital:
The Johns Hopkins Children’s Center offers one of the most comprehensive pediatric medical programs in the country, with more than 92,000 patient visits and nearly 9,000 admissions each year. Johns Hopkins Children Center is consistently ranked among the top children’s hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. The Division of Pediatric Orthopaedics at The Johns Hopkins Children’s Center offers a wide variety of state of the art services for children and adolescents in a compassionate and caring environment. Division faculty and staff are leaders in their fields, whether as educators, clinicians, surgeons, or researchers. The division’s faculty provide expertise in diagnosing and treating a wide variety of bone-related growth problems, including dwarfism, scoliosis, Marfan Syndrome, and skeletal dysplasias. In addition to its surgical and clinical offerings, the division is investigating the genetic basis of scoliosis and the clinical features of Marfan Syndrome.

Eligibility:
Applicants should be completing their third-year of medical school (in rare circumstances, uniquely qualified students finishing their second-year may be considered). The student must be in good academic standing and have an interest in pursuing a career in orthopaedic surgery. The successful applicant will be responsible, self-motivated, intellectually curious, and ability to work independently.

Award Stipend and Benefits:
The recipient of this award will receive a $30,000 stipend to cover living expenses for the year, as well as travel expenses for national presentations.

How to Apply:
Eligible students can apply by filling out the attached application and submitting it, along with supporting documents, to the Department of Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center. Detailed directions can be found on the application. The deadline for the application is February 15, 2017. However, we recommend submitting an application as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding the application, please contact the current Poggi Fellow, Brian Sullivan, at bsulli17@jhmi.edu
The Poggi Fellowship
Research

The Poggi Pediatric Orthopaedic Fellowship’s goal is to launch the careers of tomorrow’s leaders. This funded year of research is designed for medical students between their third- and fourth-years destined for a career in orthopaedic surgery. There are three components to the program: research, clinical exposure, and mentoring.

The Poggi Fellow will be involved in retrospective and prospective, single-center and multi-center, research projects. The research is designed to answer questions and solve problems in the area of pediatric orthopaedic trauma, sports medicine, spine, hip and hand disorders, patient safety, healthcare quality and value, as well as medical economics. Students meet with Dr. Sponseller and Pediatric Faculty several times weekly to assure satisfactory supervision and mentorship.

There is a long established, clinical research office in the Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Department at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center. A few of the benefits of doing clinical research in our Department include:

• A Orthopaedic research coordinator that can help the student design and complete IRB’s, adhere to the Department and Johns Hopkins Research policies, review clinical data, measure X-rays, and complete manuscripts for publication. They offer crucial assistance to new students and researchers who join the Department.
• Extremely active academic surgical faculty who are well known in the orthopaedic community.
• Weekly Clinical Conferences, visiting speakers, bi-monthly Journal Club, and many other educational events to inspire and educate medical student researchers.
• A high volume clinical practice (more than 15,000 outpatient visits, 500 in-patient visits, and 1,000 surgical procedures annually) that allows the Poggi Fellow to shadow and gain clinical exposure to inspire research ideas.
• A faculty member with an MBA, who can assist the Poggi Fellow with study design, statistical analysis, and designing healthcare quality, value, and medical economics projects.

Completed projects by Poggi Fellows will be submitted for publication in the best orthopaedic journals and presentations at national and international conferences. In many cases, the Poggi Fellow presents his research at these national meetings. Additionally, there are several annual Department research meetings and an opportunity to present research to the entire Johns Hopkins Pediatric Orthopaedic Division at the year-end orthopaedic research symposium.
The Poggi Fellowship
Clinical Experience

The second component of this program includes a robust clinical exposure. The Poggi Fellow participates actively in the outpatient clinical program. There are weekly outpatient clinics where the Poggi Fellow will be trained and mentored. Weekly, the Poggi Fellow sees patients alongside the pediatric orthopaedic faculty, developing mastery of pediatric physical exam of fractures, shoulders, knees, spines, and hips, image interpretation, and decision making. By the end of the year, The Poggi Fellow should function independently in the clinic.

In addition, there is an opportunity to observe surgical procedures. The Poggi Fellow is welcomed and encouraged to attend a variety of clinical conferences including didactic lectures, case presentation conferences, Orthopaedic Grand Rounds, and a variety of clinical research journal clubs attended by faculty, students, residents and fellows. With the experience in clinic, observation in the operating room, attendance at conferences, and the interaction with the Johns Hopkins orthopaedic residents and fellows, the Poggi Fellow will advance to the next level of their training ahead of those students who have not had such an immersive experience.
Orthopaedic Research at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center has a very active clinical and biomedical research program that offers stimulating opportunities. The Department also has a professional medical editor and media specialist. All attending physicians in our program are involved in research and available for mentoring.

The Poggi Fellow and Orthopaedic Research:
The Poggi Fellow is a central part of the orthopaedic research team – playing a major role in the department’s research efforts. The Poggi Fellow is trained within the Good Clinical Practice (GCP) guidelines including protection of human research subjects with particular emphasis on pediatrics. The Poggi Fellow is guided through the clinical research process from the development of a hypothesis to data collection and manuscript writing. The Poggi Fellow has the opportunity to work independently in bringing their projects to completion. It is our intention that multiple publications will result from the year’s effort.
Dr. Sponseller is the director of the Division of Orthopaedics at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center for nearly 30 years. He earned his medical degree from the University of Michigan, and he completed his residency at the University of Wisconsin. At Harvard, Dr. Sponseller completed orthopaedics and pediatric spine fellowships. More recently, he earned both a Master of Science degree in Business of Medicine and a Master of Business Administration at the Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Sponseller’s special interests include spine deformity, pediatric trauma, Marfan syndrome, bladder extrophy, and hip disorders. He has been awarded the Arthur H. Heune Award for career research by the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA). In addition, he has received the Yamaguchi Award for best paper in pediatrics by the American Urological Association (AUA). He has been on the Board of Directors of the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) and POSNA. He is the Deputy Editor for Pediatrics of the Journal and Bone and Joint Surgeons (JBJS). He has over 200 publications.

Honored on several occasions for his excellence in teaching and research, Dr. Sponseller was named Outstanding Teacher by the Union Memorial Orthopaedic Program and was twice awarded Teacher of the Year in Orthopaedic Surgery by The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Sponseller has traveled to Guyana, South America on three separate occasions to volunteer as a Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon for Project Dawn while simultaneously teaching medical students, residents, and fellows.
Pediatric Orthopaedic Faculty

Dr. Ain has been an attending surgeon at Hopkins for 15 years. His interests include skeletal dysplasia, spine deformity, and pediatric trauma. He has over 50 publications in the peer reviewed literature. Dr. Ain earned his medical degree from Albany Medical College of Union University where he also completed his residency. He completed his fellowship in Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery at the Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Tis has been on the Hopkins faculty for four years following five years of active military duty including tours of Iraq and Afghanistan. His interests include pediatric sports medicine and hip arthroscopy. Dr. Tis earned his medical degree from Georgetown University and completed his residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. After his military service, he completed a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopaedics at Pediatric Orthopaedic and Scoliosis Specialists of San Diego.
Dr. Varghese has been at Hopkins for over two years. His interests include cerebral palsy, club foot, and hip dysplasia. He earned his medical degree at Kasturba Medical College in Mangalore, India and completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at Kasturba Medical College in Mangalore, India. He has completed fellowships in pediatric orthopaedic surgery at Kasturba Medical College in India, Gillette Children’s Hospital, British Columbia Children’s Hospital in Vancouver, and a fellowship in orthopaedic oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Lee is the newest division member. His interests include sports medicine and resident education. He earned his medical degree at the Ohio State University and completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at Hopkins. He pursued a fellowship in pediatric orthopaedics at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.
Accepted Abstracts


Papers/Publications

- Suresh S, Margalit A, Sponseller PD. Evaluating the sagittal spinal and pelvic parameters in Marfan syndrome patients affected with scoliosis. The Spine Journal, Volume 16, Issue 4, S84 - S85. (Accepted)
- Margalit A, Stein BE, Hassanzadeh H, Ain MC, Sponseller PD. Percutaneous Screw Fixation of Lateral Condylar Humerus Fractures. JBJS Essential Surgical Techniques Key Procedures. 2016. (Accepted)
The Johns Hopkins Children’s Center

The Johns Hopkins Children’s Center state-of-the-art Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children’s Center building opened May 1, 2012. Families and visitors now enter a world designed for 21st century pediatric medicine. From its soaring lobby, large operating rooms equipped for the most technically complex procedures imaginable, spacious patient rooms and welcoming family facilities, the new building provides a hospital experience that matches the world-class medicine it affords.

The Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children’s Center for Pediatric Care features 205 private inpatient rooms including 120 acute care rooms, 85 intensive care rooms, level 1 pediatric trauma service, pediatric burn services, 10 pediatric operating rooms, multiple playrooms, and a two-story indoor play area for patients.
History of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

The Johns Hopkins Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has been caring for patients, fostering innovation, and nurturing orthopaedic leaders for over 110 years. At the invitation of Dr. William Halsted, chief of Surgery at Johns Hopkins, Dr. William S. Baer organized the first Orthopaedic Outpatient Clinic in 1900. He graduated his first resident, Lewis C. Spencer, from the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery in 1915. Until his death in 1931, he graduated one resident annually, many of whom became leaders in American orthopaedics. One of Dr. Baer’s partners in private practice, George E. Bennett, was appointed orthopaedic surgeon in charge in 1931. By 1937, one-sixth of the 150 surgeons certified as orthopaedists by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery had completed their residencies at Johns Hopkins.

A third partner of Drs. Baer and Bennett, Dr. R. W. Johnson, Jr. became the next program chairman. Among his many significant contributions was the organization of the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery. Dr. Robert A. Robinson was appointed the first full-time professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Hopkins in 1953. Under Dr. Robinson's tutelage, the residency program expanded to include additional residents, a research component, and rotations through affiliated hospitals. In 1973, with reorganization of the Department of Surgery into a section of surgical sciences, orthopaedics achieved greater organizational and financial independence with elevation to departmental status. Dr. Lee H. Riley, Jr., was appointed director of the Department in 1979 when Dr. Robinson became professor emeritus. Under Dr. Riley, the program expanded to graduate five residents annually, a new Orthopaedic Center was opened in 1982, a rotation to the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services was initiated to increase the residents’ experience with polytrauma, a spine service was added to the Department, and the residency program was approved for an additional year of training.

In April 1991, Dr. Richard Stauffer joined the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery as the orthopaedic surgeon in chief. Dr. Stauffer’s status as an internationally known orthopaedic surgeon enhanced the department and its involvement with the rest of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. Dr. Stauffer expanded the already outstanding faculty and staff with the addition of world-renowned physicians and researchers. In 1998, Dr. John P. Kostuik, Professor of Spinal Surgery, lead the department followed by Dr. Frank J. Frassica, Professor of Orthopaedic Oncology, in 2000. Dr. Frassica served as director until 2011, when Dr. James R. Ficke took over as Department Director after completing work as an orthopaedic surgeon for the United States Army.
The City of Baltimore:

Centrally located on the East coast, Baltimore combines the advantages of a convenient urban center with access to cultural and athletic activities. A thriving community of young professionals promises important connection.

Baltimore and Medicine:

Baltimore and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine have a history of a long, productive partnership, fostering medical innovation and leadership over the past two centuries. Hopkins, well known for a long list of “firsts” including the first residency program, the development of CPR, and the first bone marrow transplant, boasts a diverse and highly touted medical staff.
Baltimore Highlights

Baltimore Sports:

Baltimore is home to the two-time Super Bowl champion Ravens of the National Football League (NFL) and the three-time World Series champion Orioles of Major League Baseball (MLB). Both teams’ stadiums are located in the downtown area and feature the newest advances in stadium technology and design. The stadiums are easily accessible from the Johns Hopkins campus via public transportation.

Baltimore’s Waterfront:

Baltimore’s Inner Harbor is the city’s premier tourist attraction. Here you can find the National Aquarium, Harborplace, Maryland Science Center and a host of restaurants and shops. There is surely something for everyone to enjoy at the Inner Harbor. Other nearby attractions include Fort McHenry (birthplace of the “Star-Spangled Banner”), Lexington Market and Walters Art Museum.
Application

• Complete the attached application
• Submit a letter of recommendation
• Submit an essay explaining why you are interested in doing clinical research for a year in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Johns Hopkins Medicine
• Include your curriculum vitae
• Include a .pdf of your USMLE Step 1 score