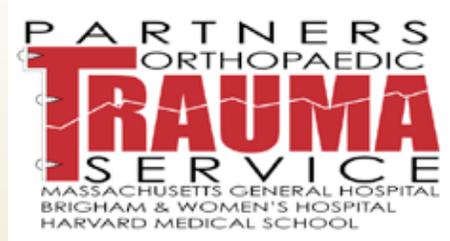


THE PARTNERS ORTHOPAEDIC TRAUMA SERVICE

MARK S. VRAHAS, MD



The 2009-10 year was one of continued growth and development for the Partners Orthopaedic Trauma Service. While much of our clinical and academic work remained consistent with previous years, we did experience some very notable events along the way.

We are proudest of the continued influence that our program has had on the lives of young orthopaedists. Our fellowship program was fortunate to have two really great fellows this year, Erica Dafford, MD, and former HCORP resident, Mike Weaver, MD. Both are talented surgeons and well-liked by their colleagues and peers, and we are fortunate to have two fellows who are interested in academics. We were pleased and grateful to receive one of the OMeGA Foundation's inaugural fellowship grants, and recently received word that the OREF will fund our program in 2010-11. Our 2010-11 fellows will be Brian Ladner, MD, (our second fellow from Louisiana State University), and Eugene Toney, MD, from Penn State.

We had close to 50 applicants for our 2011-12 trauma fellowship positions, and interviewed half of these applicants during the Fall. We will learn next week which two candidates will join our team for the 2011-12 academic year.

Our residency program continues to produce top flight residents who are interested in Trauma. Christina Boulton, MD, is headed to Shock Trauma next year to work with Class of 2004 HCORP resident, Bob O'Toole, MD, while Manish Sethi, MD, heads to Vanderbilt. Their fellow residents, PGY4's Olivia Pate, MD, and Amna Diwan, MD, will find out soon where they will match. We understand that there are some junior residents considering trauma as a career, and are quite pleased that this is the case.

Of note, Dr. Diwan and Dr. Smith published a textbook for Orthopaedic, Radiology, and Emergency Medicine residents entitled, "Musculoskeletal Trauma Simplified," which provides a case-by-case approach to different types of fractures. The book aims to provide fundamental basic knowledge to the reader in a user-friendly format. We were all very impressed with Dr. Diwan's work on this important contribution to the literature.

Speaking of literature, we have at long last published our Partners Orthopaedic Trauma Service newsletter. Trauma Rounds is a quarterly, case-based publication authored by our faculty for community orthopaedists. It is sent out to 500 orthopods in the New England area. Drs. Vrahas and, Dyer have

already seen their contributions in print, while Dr. Harris' is currently in press and Dr. Smith is on deck. We have both a print and on-line audience, and encourage you to check us out at: <http://achesandjoints.org/trauma>.

In previous HOJ updates, we have provided information and updates about the annual AO Trauma Summit in Stowe, VT. This course, started by Dr. Jupiter, and Dr. Vrahas in 2000, has become a national model for AO courses with its small, case-based, intimate format. Drs. Jupiter, Vrahas, Smith, Harris, and Ring are all members of the course faculty. Happy 10th Birthday, Trauma Summit!

The effects of the massive Haitian earthquake were not lost on our community. As the article in this Journal will attest, Drs. Smith, Dyer, and Harris were among the first to respond to the needs of the citizens of Haiti, and realized within hours of their arrival that these needs were both clinical and systematic in nature. Soon after the first wave of volunteers was deployed, Dr. Vrahas organized several dozen orthopaedic clinicians from Harvard, Boston, and New England for future missions. Our brave colleagues performed hundreds of surgeries and acts of mercy during their missions. Since the need for trauma surgeons has dissipated with time, Drs. Smith and Dyer have shifted their roles to provide leadership and expertise for country's long-term orthopaedic needs.

We would like to use this space to acknowledge the efforts of our administrative and clinical service colleagues who have worked and continue to work tirelessly here in Boston to make these trips a reality. Our team could not have served in the way it did without their help.

Our next big task as a service will be to evolve from a Partners Division to a Harvard Division. Our staff and our colleagues from Beth Israel Deaconess and Children's Hospital have begun meeting to discuss mission, vision, and by-laws. We envision that this collaboration will allow us to vastly improve our presence and work in research, education, and clinical care. We anticipate that by this time next year the Harvard Division of Orthopaedic Trauma will be a reality.

In closing, we would like to thank Drs. Rubash and Thornhill for their continued guidance and support of the Partners Orthopaedic Trauma Service. We continue to prove that cross-campus collaborations are indeed possible, and know that we have not done it without their leadership and support.