Shoulder and Elbow Fellowship Information

The University of Florida Shoulder and Elbow fellowship is located in Gainesville, Florida. It is designed to offer one fellow per year a comprehensive exposure to all aspects of shoulder and elbow surgery. The fellow will rotate with 5 full time fellowship trained faculty all who have a high volume of shoulder and elbow cases. Dr. Wright [1] has a large practice divided between shoulder and elbow arthroplasty surgery, and arthroscopy. Dr. Farmer’s [2] and Dr. Moser’s [3] practice involves sports medicine and arthroscopic surgery of the shoulder and elbow, and are responsible for the care of the University of Florida (Gators) athletic teams. Dr. King [4] will intermittently work with the fellow in a clinical setting and is very involved with facilitation the fellow’s research. Dr. Schoch [5] is the newest member of the Division after completing a residency at the Mayo Clinic and a shoulder and elbow fellowship at the Rothman clinic. He is an outstanding clinician and has developed a very active research program. The fellow is actively involved in all aspects of the patient’s care from evaluation and decision making to the actual surgical procedure. This is a surgical hands on fellowship not an observational one. With 5 shoulder and elbow trained faculty members in the Division and one in the trauma Division the fellow will have some flexibility to focus on aspects of shoulder and elbow surgery that fit their particular needs.

The University of Florida is Level I Trauma and Burn Center. The fellow will treat complex elbow and shoulder trauma generated by these centers both in the acute phases and delayed reconstruction. Drs. Wright, Schoch, and King perform inpatient shoulder and elbow surgery. In addition, Dr. Patrick [6] has performed fellowships in both trauma and shoulder and elbow so the opportunity exists to spend additional time in trauma if the fellow desires. The fellowship is educationally oriented and has no mandatory night call.

Didactic conferences include preoperative conference every Thursday afternoon, three upper extremity conferences on Monday mornings and one conference given to the entire Department once a month on a Monday evening. In the Thursday preoperative conferences the fellow will perform virtual surgery that will be used in the upcoming week using the new GPS computer guided system to assist with shoulder arthroplasty surgery. In addition, one Tuesday morning is dedicated to fellow’s research and two Wednesday mornings to covering the entire shoulder and elbow curriculum.

The fellow is expected to write a research paper of publishable quality during their time at the University of Florida. Research facilities available to the fellow and housed directly in the Department of Orthopaedics include a biomechanics lab, motion analysis lab, gene therapy lab, stem cell research lab, and a surgical skills lab. We also have a full time clinical research coordinator responsible for the Divisions research and a shoulder arthroplasty database with 2000 patients dating back to the 1990s. We anticipate that the fellow will have 10% to 20% of the workweek assigned for research and educational purposes. The fellowship will sponsor travel to one national and one regional meeting per year. The Department also supports travel for research presentations from the fellow’s graduate work at UF.

Unique aspects of this program include a high ratio of shoulder and elbow fellowship trained faculty to fellow ratio that gives the trainee a moderate amount of flexibility with the ability to focus on more sports medicine, or less sports medicine and more shoulder arthroplasty and trauma.

Applicants shall have completed an accredited orthopaedic residency in the United States or Canada. We accept applications through the SF Match. Please visit ASES fellowship site [7] for more information.

For further information, interested parties may email educationoffice@ortho.ufl.edu [8] or call 352-273-7375 Rebecca Radacky, Dr. Wright’s Administrative Support Assistant.
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