



Dear Pitt Plastic Surgery Alumni,

Greetings from Pittsburgh! The Fall of 2022 was a busy one. The residency is in full swing, the new core group of residents who started in July are settled in and the services are busy.

The academic program is full of exciting guest lectures and continuing education that includes specialty conferences and our coveted weekly Grand Rounds lectures.

This year's ASPS, "The Meeting," held in Boston had our own Peter Rubin pass the baton after the historical two-year back-to-back presidency positions from the University of Pittsburgh. A very proud moment for us to experience. There was a wonderful Pitt alumni event, with the traditional great showing of close to 100 in attendance!

We are sad to announce that Dr. Jignesh Unadkat will be leaving us to pursue his career at The University of Chicago where he will oversee the hand service and develop innovative programs. "Jigs" as we fondly know him, has been a part of our family since 2005! His tenure in the Department of Plastic Surgery included a research fellowship, residency, hand fellowship, and becoming an amazing faculty member in 2016. He will be dearly missed. Good luck, Jigs!!!

On another sad note, we lost our dear Hans Wolfgang Losken this past fall. "Wolf" was Chief of Plastic Surgery at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh from 1988 to 2000. He built a world class craniofacial program that has persevered over time. He was recruited by Dr. Futrell and grew the service to one of the most respected programs in the world. He trained dozens of us (me included). We lost a great one. Our love to Daisy and a special hug to Albert who is carrying on the tradition of plastic surgery excellence at Emory.

On a happier and positive note, Dr. Joe Losee has been promoted to Vice Dean of Medical Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. In this very important role, he will oversee faculty appointments, development, DEI, wellness and overall wellbeing of the faculty. An incredible honor, and well deserved!

Spotlight on Alumni! In this quarter we feature Frederick "Fred" G. Weniger, Graduating Class 2005.

1. What are you doing now?

I am currently in private practice in the Bluffton/Hilton Head, SC area doing aesthetic plastic surgery. We have a separate medspa business, LUX~ a medical spa, with 2 locations, 3 full-time NPs, and 5 full-time aestheticians. This year, I added an associate who graduated from Washington University in St. Louis under another former Pitt grad I trained with, Jonathan Sack.

2. Can you tell us a Pitt story that stands out?

I remember being in a plastic surgery case at Pitt as a med student. We were toward the end of the case and the chief resident had to leave and asked the intern if he could finish closing. Soon, the intern got paged and asked me if I could finish without him, and of course I said, "yes." That instant promotion forced me into seeing that I was capable of doing a lot outside of my comfort zone.

Another story I remember is being called in to talk to Dr. Futrell early in my residency. I was in there forever. When I got out, a fellow resident asked me, "How did it go?" I answered that it was great - a really good talk. He asked me what we talked about, and I realized that I had no idea.

3. What advice do you have for the graduating residents?

For the graduating residents, I would encourage patience in building your practice. It is frustrating at first not being busy but enjoy that time as a reward for what you have accomplished. Maybe you can revisit an old hobby or start a new pastime. You can enjoy more time with your family. You will wish you did once you get busy.

4. What did Pitt Plastic Surgery Residency mean for you?

What my Pitt Experience gave me was confidence. We saw a huge volume of complex cases - in general surgery and in plastics. We took care of a lot of very sick people. That intensity prepared me for everything that I saw and taught me how to approach things I had never seen. Being taught, coached, and challenged by amazing professors made me confident when I was on my own - and it still does.

5. If you could have dinner with anyone past or present, who would it be and why?

If I could have dinner with anyone, it would be my grandfather. He was a psychiatrist and the clinical director of Western Psych (now part of UPMC). He was wise and pithy, but he died while I was in college, so even though he was my hero, I never got to relate to him as an adult.



Weniger Family

Reminder, the fleece campaign is ongoing; for a donation of \$1200 or more you will receive a personalized fleece jacket. For an additional \$600, or \$1800 annually, you can have “Grand Rounds” brought into your living room by video ZOOM and get CME credit. The yearly membership will be prorated based on time left.

Please stay connected! H2P

Fondly,



Guy M. Stofman, MD
Clinical Professor, Department of Plastic Surgery
Chief of Plastic Surgery, UPMC Mercy
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
President, *Futrell Society*
Class of '91

Attachment: *Residents Corner*

