



Greetings Fellow Alumni!

The third quarter of 2023 is always special for us here at Pitt; this is the time when new residents come aboard, the start of the new academic season begins and there is an air of enthusiasm. With that, please join me in welcoming the incoming residents. We look forward to their contributions to the Department and beyond.

Integrated Plastic Surgery Residents



Justin Beiriger, MD MS

From Monroeville PA, undergrad at Case Western Reserve University, medical school at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Completed dedicated research year with Dr. Goldstein at UPMC Childrens Hospital of Pittsburgh prior to residency.

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Fuat Baris Bengur, MD

Born in Ankara, Turkey, he completed medical school at Acibadem University School of Medicine, Istanbul, Turkey. He then completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at University of Pittsburgh Department of Plastic Surgery prior to residency.

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Zhazira Irgebay, MD

Originally from Almaty, Kazakhstan and spent part of her childhood in Israel and Philadelphia, PA. Undergrad at Swarthmore College, medical school at New York Medical College. Completed dedicated research year with Dr. Goldstein at UPMC Childrens Hospital of Pittsburgh prior to residency.

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Independent Plastic Surgery Residents



Omar Elfanagely, MD

Born and raised in New Jersey, undergrad at Rutgers University, medical school at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. Matriculated to Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson for general surgery residency. He completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at University of Pennsylvania.

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Benjamin Scott, MD

From Pittsburgh, PA, undergrad at Johns Hopkins University, medical school at Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University. Matriculated to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center for general surgery residency. He completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

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We continue to have the annual Resident Camaraderie Day, and of course the immensely popular Journal Club, held monthly, which allows us to learn and dine together.

Another exciting addition to the Department of Plastic Surgery is our very own Isaac B. James, MD, MS, who joined the Department of Plastic Surgery faculty on August 1, 2023, after completing an Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Fellowship at Cleveland Clinic. Isaac is the Director of the UPMC Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Center (North Hills), and Director of Aesthetic Education. He specializes in facial aesthetic surgery, and aesthetic plastic surgery of the breast and body. We are extremely excited to have him.

The Grand Rounds program for this quarter was highlighted by our own Gayle Gordillo who talked about new innovations she started at IU that she brought to us as head of the system-wide wound program. We had other talks surrounding the science of breast implant disease, unusual techniques in face lifting and microsurgery and care of the burn patient. All of these topics are pertinent to our day-today surgical activities and were extremely informative. As done yearly, Alex Davit gave an introduction to examination of the hand, and Joe Losee discussed examination and management of facial fractures.

Please keep in mind, the CME program is still being offered to participate in our weekly Grand Rounds and select lectures. We are always looking for new members.

Spotlight on Alumni! In this quarter we feature John J. Edney, Graduating Class of 1983.

1) What are you doing now?

I retired clinically in January 2023. I am still involved as an owner and consultant for practice development and marketing. My practice has been in Omaha, NE. I am also involved in stem cell technology research as an investor in a company and am spending a lot of time with my family.

2) Can you tell us a William Futrell story from residency?

We were at an ASPS meeting and Dr. Futrell was invited as a guest speaker. After his talk, he sat down at the table and pulled out a water gun. He started to shoot the water gun at a table across the aisle. The guests kept looking up complaining that there is water coming from the ceiling. The maître d' investigated and said no. When the maître d' left, Dr. Futrell did it again and the guests complained, got up and left. It was typical of his pranks.

Another story...Dr. Futrell kept his camera in an aluminum case, and he had DANGER RADIATION stickers all over it. He said that he left his camera on the floor and asked if we could pick it up. When we went there, the University Police were surrounding it, questioning us, it became a big deal. Always a fun moment!

3) Is there a Pitt Resident story that stands out?

We worked hard; we were driven hard. It was a close-knit team that worked together and have stayed friends long since. Dr. Futrell set a culture of excellence that we were expected to maintain. It was a wonderful time to train.

4) What does the Pitt Plastic Surgery education mean to you?

It was one of the top programs in the country to train with. We had superstars during that period, and it was a privilege to be a part of all of that. During that year, we had twins, my brother was killed in a car accident, and despite all the stressors that I was surrounded by, it was one of the best years of my life. We had a sense of family and I relied on my resident peers to get me through my daily life. Annie Futrell helped with our kids, Dr. Futrell took us in, he cared about us and made it a point to see to it that he got the most out of you and for that I am forever grateful.

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

In 2005, I went to the Holocaust Museum and bought book at the bookstore. The writer was Peter Malkin, who was on the team that hunted Adolf Eichmann, who was committed for nazi war crimes. Malkin was a nazi hunter. I would love to talk to him. I read the book and it was so impressionable.



The Edney Family

As always, we want to hear from you. Let us know about your milestones, accomplishments, or anything else that you would like to share. Reminder, the fleece campaign is ongoing; for a donation of \$1200 or more you will receive a personalized fleece jacket.

Be well and please stay in touch! H2P!!!

Fondly,



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

Attachment: *Residents Corner*