

# Letter from the Chair

Robert C. Schenck Jr, MD



As chair of The University of New Mexico (UNM) Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation since 2005, I am pleased to present the eighth volume of *The University of New Mexico Orthopaedics Research Journal (UNMORJ)*. This volume marks a period of transition to our goal of becoming an external peer-

reviewed orthopaedic journal with citations in PubMed. This is our third year of initiating the peer-review process as well as improving overall publication process. We are grateful to the many peer reviewers who made this happen for our previous volumes, including the following individuals:

- *UNMORJ* 2017—Adam Adler, Eric Benson, Jenni Buckley, Shane Cass, Tahseen Cheema, James Clark, Thomas DeCoster, Rebecca Dutton, Fabio Figueiredo, David Grow, Daniel Hoopes, Andrea Lese, James Love, Christopher McGrew, Moheb Moneim, Patrick Mulkey, Jorge Orbay, John Phillips, Ashkan Pourkand, Jeffrey Racca, Dustin Richter, John Ruth, Andrew Schannen, Jordan Smith, Daniel Stewart, Mahmoud Reda Taha, Ahmed Thabet-Hagag, Lauren Vernon, and Jason Wild.
- *UNMORJ* 2018—Stephen Becher, David Burk, Michael Decker, Rebecca Dutton, Fabio Figueiredo, Katherine Gavin, Jenna Godfrey, J. Speight Grimes, David Grow, Bryon Hobby, Andrea Lese, Heather Menzer, Nathan Morrell, Drew Newhoff, Blake Obrock, Jorge Orbay, Dustin Richter, Selina Silva, Ahmed Thabet-Hagag, Lauren Vernon, and John Wiemann.
- *UNMORJ* 2019—Tamás Bárdos, Justin Bartley, David Bloome, Henry Chambers, Michael Charles, Lauren Decker, Paul Durfee, Gregory DeSilva, Fabio Figueiredo, Sumeet Garg, Jenna Godfrey, David Grow, Speight Grimes, Zibi Gugala, Sebastian Heaven, Bryon Hobby, Stephen Incavo, Stephen Jacobsen, Ray Jensen, Galen Kam, Matthew Karam, Andrea Lese, Sukanta Maitra, Seth McCord, Kevin McGee, Heather Menzer, Charles Metzger, Richard Miller, Drew Newhoff, Blake Obrock, Jorge Orbay, Briana Patti, Ian Power, Daniel Romanelli, Amir Sandiford, Frederick Sherman, Ahmed Thabet, Lauren Vernon, Laura Wells, John Wiemann, Jon Wyatt, and Colby Young.

The amazing work of the *UNMORJ* editorial board, with leadership from Co-Editors Christina Salas, PhD, and Deana Mercer, MD, have made the publication an established entity within the department and university. Additionally, it is fascinating to see this volume in the light of the career growth of Sahar Freedman, our managing editor brought on as part-time student intern in August 2014, and Joni Roberts who has helped bring the journal to fruition since the first volume.

We hope you enjoy this eighth volume, and my personal thanks to the many others responsible for the continued expansion of research at UNM Orthopaedics, including Sahar Freedman, Dustin Richter, MD, Christina Kurnik, MPH, our fantastic residents, our supportive faculty, and our team of engineering students led by Dr. Salas at our in-house Orthopaedic Biomechanics & Biomaterials Laboratory. We have the vision of becoming the premier research journal in the West and will continue to strive to that end.

To parallel the success of *UNMORJ*, the department itself has great stability thanks to our many dedicated faculty, residents, and staff. We are ever so grateful for the leadership of Gehron Treme, MD, as director of the residency program for the past 6 years and welcome Selina Silva, MD, as our new associate program director of residency. Furthermore, I would like to thank Gail Case in her management of the large enterprise of UNM Orthopaedics, finances, education, and research. My thanks to Gail Case, Joni Roberts, and Darren Krehoff for all of their work and dedication in the process of educating residents and fellows.

Lastly, I would like to thank the entire UNM Orthopaedics family in making our space of work, academics, and research such a positive experience for all.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Schenck Jr, MD  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation