

Resident Awards

Best Junior Resident Award

Every year, the graduating chief residents elect the third year resident that they feel best embodies the intangibles that make the Duke Orthopaedics residency special. In June of 2012, Dr T Matt Chapman was chosen for this special honor. Dr Chapman has a long history of excellence. His higher education started at Davidson College, where he was a stellar student. He then travelled down the road to Wake Forest School of Medicine, where he established himself as a diligent, hard working student with a passion for Orthopaedics. This is also where he met his wife, Jenny. They were married after his final year of medical school in Kiawah Island, SC. While at Duke, Dr Chapman has been a role model for all of us. He provides compassionate patient care, and he has a way of always being there when you need help. He cares deeply about the Duke Orthopaedics program, and he holds all of us to the highest standard of excellence and professionalism. Beyond his work at the hospital, he is an outstanding father to his son Trey and a loyal friend. There is no better role model for our junior residents than Dr Chapman, who always puts the patient and his coresidents, first. Dr Chapman is planning a career in spine surgery, with a focus on pediatric and adult deformity.

Best Teaching Chief Resident Award

Every year, the junior residents vote to chose the graduating chief resident that has contributed the most to their education. For 2012, a nearly unanimous vote gave this honor to Dr Adam Kaufman. Dr Kaufman started his path toward excellence at Bucknell University, where he was a letterman on the track team. The discipline and energy that he acquired from these experiences carried with him to Harvard Medical School, where he was a model student. He cultivated his interest in orthopaedics in Boston, and was highly recruited by every premier residency program in the country. Dr Kaufman was drawn to Duke because of the unique moral, professional, and personal qualities of the faculty and residents. At Duke, Dr Kaufman became known for his relentless energy, his uncanny ability to memorize the entire orthopaedic literature, but above all his passion for sharing his knowledge with other residents. When on call as a chief, his favorite activity was going over core lectures with juniors and students, even if it was 2 AM. His enthusiasm for teaching carried to the operating room where he found the right balance between helping others do the case, while pushing them to do it with precision and efficiency. Dr Kaufman will be sorely missed. He is currently pursuing a trauma fellowship at the prestigious Shock Trauma Hospital in Baltimore. From there, Dr Kaufman, his wife Laura, and their son Ben will settle to build a career and family.

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