**Dedicated Research Year**

One resident from each class may choose to spend an additional optional capstone year after their chief year to further investigate a topic of their choice. Selection for this is done through a competitive award involving proposal of a specific research question. It is anticipated that completion of this year will facilitate a career in academic orthopedic surgery and assist in competing for career development awards.

* Interested residents will apply at the end of their PGY-4 clinical year
* Research plan must be sponsored by an active faculty member in the Washington University Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
  + Residents must submit a research plan with the following requirements
    - Project Summary/Abstract (30 lines)
    - Specific Aims & Research Strategy (Significance, Innovation, Approach, Expected Outcomes and Future Directions) (5 page limit)
    - Targeted/Planned Enrollment and Timeline (Clinical research) OR Timeline for Laboratory Procedures (Bench research) (1 page)
    - Bibliography
  + Residents must also submit a career development plan detailing skills they anticipate developing through the year out, courses they intend to take, appropriate milestones and how the research year will fit into their overall career plan. (2 pages maximum)
  + Mentors will submit a mentor agreement plan including:
    - Agreement for sponsoring resident research plan
    - Mentorship plan with scheduled monthly meetings and identification of mentees strengths and areas of improvement
    - Quarterly mentorship meetings with resident/mentor and resident research director
* Residents will be paid salary/benefits commensurate with their post-graduate year level (benefits covered by Wash U)
* Research year resident will plan to submit for external funding to support research activities in year leading up to planned research
* Expectations for the Year
  + Resident will be expected to pursue 1 year coursework either through the MPHS or MPTCI program
  + Resident must have a first author manuscript of original research submitted to a peer reviewed journal by the end of the year
  + Resident will participate in department educational activities
  + Resident will maintain clinical activities by participating in the chief BJH and SLCH trauma call pool
* Interested residents will submit application materials including research plan, mentor agreement, and current CV to be reviewed by members of the resident research committee