The Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital continues under the able direction of Josef E. Fischer, MD, Chairman of the Department of Surgery at BIDMC and Mallinckrodt Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Fischer was appointed as Acting Chairman of Orthopedic Surgery in June 2002 and given the charge of recruiting a new department chairperson for Orthopedic Surgery. In July, a formal search committee was formed by Harvard Medical School and included the following members:

Josef E. Fischer, MD, Chairman, Department of Surgery, BIDMC
Jeffrey S. Flier, MD
George C. Reisman Professor of Medicine, BIDMC
Steven R. Goldring, MD
Professor of Medicine, BIDMC
Douglas W. Hanto, MD
Visiting Professor of Surgery, Division of Transplantation, BIDMC
James H. Herndon, MD
Partners HealthCare Chairman, Dept. of Orthopedic Surgery, MGH
James R. Kasser, MD
John E. Hall Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Children’s Hospital
Paul F. Levy,
President and CEO, BIDMC
Robert C. Moellering, Jr, MD
Herrman Ludwig Blumgart Professor of Medicine, BIDMC
Mary Ann Stevenson, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology, BIDMC
Thomas S. Thornhill, MD
John B. and Buckminster Brown Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, BWH
Mary B. Clark, PhD
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, Dean’s Office, Harvard Medical School

The Search Committee met throughout the fall, winter, and spring, reviewing curriculum vitae, interviewing, and ranking candidates. As of this writing, the committee’s recommendations for a new chairperson have been forwarded to Paul Levy, President and CEO of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

In August, we were pleased to welcome back Lars C. Richardson, MD when he joined the Meeks Zilberfarb Orthopedic Associates practice. Lars had recently completed a Foot and Ankle Fellowship with Dr. Michael Wilson at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital and a Sports Medicine Fellowship with Drs. Bert Zarinus, Arthur Boland and Thomas Gill at Massachusetts General Hospital. Drs. Louis Meeks and Jeffrey Zilberfarb continue in their busy practice and make a big contribution to the education of the sports medicine resident on their service, as well as to the education of HMS students and BIDMC medical residents.

In September, the department hailed the arrival of Dr. Charles S. Day, a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Orthopaedic Residency Program. During his time in Pittsburgh, Charles also received an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh. Most recently, Charles completed a Hand Surgery Fellowship at Barnes-Jewish Hospital at Washington University in St Louis, under the direction of Dr. Richard H. Gelberman. Just prior to joining the faculty, Charles married Michelle Tang, a third year HMS student.

Dr. Robert Davis has continued his clinical work, devoting time to sports medicine injuries and surgeries, as well as providing trauma coverage for BIDMC. Dr. Donald Reilly continues his clinical practice at the New England Baptist Hospital; he remains active in the teaching of Harvard residents and HMS students and continues his research in the areas of knee replacement implants. The Musculoskeletal Medicine Unit, located in the orthopedic suite of the Shapiro Clinical Center and staffed by rheumatologist Dr. John Donohue and nurse practitioner Sharon Gates, continues to provide excellent care for regional musculoskeletal disease problems.

At the end of February, Dr. Augustus A. White, III, ended his many years of clinical practice at this institution and now devotes his attention and energies to the students of Harvard.
Dr. Gerard Werries, Dr. White’s clinical fellow, has continued his fellowship activities with Dr. Paul Glazer at BIDMC and with Dr. Eric Woodard in Neurosurgery at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Jerry will be returning to his hometown of Pittsburgh to pursue a spine surgery practice with Tri-State Orthopedics.

Dr. Paul Glazer moved his practice to the Shapiro Clinical Center and continues his research in several areas of interest: Use of erythropoetin in elective spinal surgery; Cost analysis of spinal instrumentation and surgical outcomes; and Urinary retention in post-operative patients with epidural catheters. Paul presented a poster at the 28th Annual Meeting of the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine in Vancouver, on “Evaluation of Electrically Stimulated and Nonstimulated Anterior Spinal Fusion Devices in Primates” (with coauthors SD Cook, LP Patron, PM Christakis, KB Bailey, C Banta). An article on this subject has been accepted for publication in Spine; another article by these same authors, on “Comparison of Methods for Determining the Presence and Extent of Anterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion” has been accepted for publication in The Spine Journal. Perhaps most importantly, Paul and his wife, Lianne, welcomed their second daughter, Elizabeth Lauren, on April 7, 2003.

The surgeons in Boston Orthopedic Group (Drs. Harris Yett, Hyman Glick, Tobin Gerhart, and Saechin Kim) continue in their busy practice of patient care and education of HMS students and BIDMC medicine residents. Drs. Gerhart and Kim have been very active in providing trauma care and coverage for the medical center. Dr. Stephen Murphy has moved his adult reconstruction practice to the New England Baptist Hospital.

The Orthopedic Biomechanics Laboratory of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is a world-renowned center for biomechanics research in orthopedics. In addition, the lab trains numerous Harvard residents, Harvard medical students, and engineering students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Boston University. The Orthopedic Biomechanics Laboratory has been in transition since Dr. Wilson C. (Toby) Hayes, Ph.D. left for Oregon in 1998. Dr. Brian Snyder, M.D., Ph.D., of Children’s Hospital has been acting director since May 1998.

Now more than ever, the Orthopedic Biomechanics Lab is a resource for orthopedic researchers at all the hospitals in the Harvard Combined Orthopedic Residency Program. Brian Snyder, M.D., Ph.D., is investigating the biomechanics of metastatic defects in bone, the biomechanics of fracture healing, and growth factors for the acceleration of fracture healing. Dr. Guoan Li focuses on utilizing the most recent technological advances to delineate the musculoskeletal joint function and investigate the etiology of joint disease. He and his students are specifically interested in the biomechanical factors that lead to joint injuries and long-term joint degeneration. Their research also includes examination of the biomechanical effects of current surgical options (e.g., ligament reconstruction, total joint replacement) used to treat these injuries and devise new techniques (e.g., minimally invasive surgical technique). Ron Alkalay, Ph.D. focuses on spinal biomechanics in the areas of instrumentation and the use of biomaterials to enhance surgical procedures. Of particular interest to Ron is the relationship between mechanical forces and biological processes in spinal fusion, and the degenerative process of the intervertebral disc. Roberto Fajardo, Ph.D. primarily takes a comparative mammalian perspective to his research. He recently completed work investigating the relationship between locomotor behavior and cancellous bone structure in the primate hip, as well as the effects of gender and body size. Current projects include bone tissue engineering and tracking osteoclast resorption activity in mouse models of rheumatic arthritis.

We are heartened by the medical center’s progress in its financial turn-around and feel hopeful this will enhance our ability to recruit new faculty.
Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Clinical Faculty
Robert G. Davis, MD
Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Charles S. Day, MD
Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Tobin N. Gerhart, MD
Assistant Clinical Professor, Harvard Medical School

Paul A. Glazer, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Hyman Glick, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Sachin Kim, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Stephen J. Lipson, MD
Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Louis W. Merks, MD
Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

William A. Mitchell, Jr., MD
Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Stephen B. Murphy, MD
Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Augustus A. White, III, MD
Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

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Lars C. Richardson, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Hillel Shiff, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Augustin A. White, III, MD
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Ellen and Melvin Gordon Professor of Medical Education

Harvard Medical School

Harris Yett, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Jeffrey L. Zilberfarb, MD
Clinical Instructor, Harvard Medical School

Research Faculty
Brian D. Snyder, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Acting Director, Orthopedic Biomechanics Laboratory

Mary Bouxsein, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Guan Li, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Ron Alkalay, Ph.D.
Instructor in Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical School

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