“Giving Back” is a Jefferson tradition beginning with Dr. William Schmidt (JMC 1963), who together with Dr. Frank Krusen (JMC 1951) served as Presidents of the American Association of Neuromuscular and Reconstructive Surgery (AANRMS) in 1954 and 1955, respectively. Other Jefferson graduates and faculty have also served as Presidents of the Academy including Drs. Bender (1973), Ditunno (1981), Reinhold (1995), Melvin (1990) and recent presidents in 2020-2023, Betsy Sandel (JRR 1984), Michael B. Sacco (JMC 1984), Dr. Brian Kwan (JMC 2007) and Dr. Alberto Espanol (JMC 2000). Both Krusen and Schmidt were founding members of the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR) in 1940. Over the years many graduates/faculty have served on the ABPMR; Dr. Krusen, Dr. Schmidt, Ditunno, Sluss (JMC 1963); Melvin and most recently Gary Clark (JMC 1975, JRR 1978), Carolyn Kinney (JRR 1984), Kransky Kowalska (JRR 1986), James McDermott (JRR 1987) and Barry Smith (JMC 1985). Drs. Krusen, Ditunno, Melvin and currently Kowalska serve as Chair of the ABPMR.

While those individuals, who are elected to serve national organizations such as the AAPM&R, AAPMR, the Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP) and various subspecialty societies are most easily identified, those who “shed the store” often give countless hours over the job description and deserve recognition, such as Dr. Frank Nau (JRR 1979, JMC 1975). Librarian, each faculty member (inclusive of resident) gives back each day to the formation of future generations of rehabilitation specialists as role models. The leadership a resident demonstrates in the role of chief resident often prepares one for a career of “giving back.” In addition, the traits of affiliate programs provide exceptional training experience and with their staff serve as role models of combined teaching and private practice. Past and present leaders have been included in the photo captions based on recommendations of residents and faculty. All former residents/members will be invited to provide photo-captions to be posted on our website along with this presentation.

Dr. Gerald Hbom (JMC 1970) & Dr. Stanley Jacobs (JMC 1972, JRR 1978, JMC 1976) - at Jefferson and William Sluss (JMC 1963), Chris Formal (JRR 1982), Mike Saulino (JRR 1975, JMC 1976) - at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital have for many years provided leadership to medical student/resident education. Affiliated programs in the past at Lehigh Valley, Crozer Chester under the leadership of Drs. Jay Segelphil (JMC 1951) and Bob Gordon (LMC 1973-1980) provided excellent training experiences in orthopedic rehabilitation for over 20 years. Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital under Dr. Long Jefferi Resident teaching faculty has provided a Brain Injury experience since the 1980s. Under the leadership of Dr. Melvin as chair, residents began rotation at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital with exposure to national experts such as Drs. John Whyte (LMC 2000), Albert Ezaki (JMC 2000) and C. R. Snidir (LMC 2000). Many former residents continue to give back to the teaching and the community and some will be seen in the photo captions.

Several programs require special mention because of their contributions to the specialty, program and patients. The Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center at Jefferson and Magee has been a federal funded center for the past 35 years, initially under the leadership of Dr. Ditunno (1979-2006) and currently Dr. Ralph Marino (JMC 1982, JRR 1981, JMC 1983-2016; 2012 for the past 7 years). In 2006 in addition to Dr. Marino, Drs. Marcacchia Sipak-Alexander (JMC 1983, JRR 1988) at Univ. of Miami, Dr. Tom Bryce (JRR 1997) Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Dr. Steve Boren (JMC 1990) Univ. of Washington, Seattle, and Dr. Greg Neumaier (JMC 1989) at Case Western Reserve were named directors/co-directors of federally funded model SCI centers.

In recent years with the increased growth and interest in musculoskeletal medicine under the leadership of Dr. Steven Freedman (JRR 1998) a new model has been created that expanding the residency in depth and breadth has enabled Jefferson to enjoy recognition locally and nationally as one of the leading programs in PM&R. Former residents and faculty members have contributed to this tradition of leadership by being named as chairs of academic departments such as Dr. Karen Kowalska, University of Miami, Dr. Gary Clark, Case Western Reserve, James McDermott, Baylor College of Medicine, and Dr. Ralph Marino (JMC 1982, JRR 1987, JMC 1988) (Jefferson Graduate 1984) past president of the American Board of Rehabilitation Medicine, among others.

Many other former residents chair clinical departments throughout the country, which are often teaching hospitals affiliated with medical schools.

Key: Jefferson Medical College in JMC, Jefferson Rehab Resident in JRR, JMC Faculty in JMC, JRR Faculty in JMC.