

# September 2025 News and Updates

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center  
Department of  
Orthopaedic Surgery

Volume 4 | Issue 8

## Excellence in Motion

### New Faculty Spotlight: Kelechi Okoroha, M.D.

**Kelechi Okoroha, M.D.** has joined the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Okoroha will be serving as the new **Division Chief of Sports Medicine** for the department.

Dr. Okoroha specializes in treating a full spectrum of sports-related and orthopedic conditions and has expertise in caring for athletes and individuals of all ages.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Okoroha!



### Dr. Koehler named new Vice Chair of Operations at UT Southwestern Orthopaedic Surgery

Associate Professor, **Daniel Koehler, M.D.**, has been named the new **Vice Chair of Operations** for the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at UT Southwestern. In this role, he will oversee clinical activities across outpatient clinics, inpatient services, and surgical care, working closely with department leadership to align operations with institutional priorities and patient needs.

Dr. Koehler will lead initiatives to enhance patient safety, quality, efficiency, and experience, with a focus on achieving top outcomes and ensuring timely access to care.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Koehler on this well-deserved role.



## Dr. Boyle appointed Medical Director at Parkland for Arthroplasty

Assistant Professor, **Keely Boyle, M.D.** has been appointed **Medical Director of Arthroplasty** at **Parkland Health**.

As medical director, Dr. Boyle will lead the Parkland Total Joints service and provide a comprehensive approach to care of hip and knee injuries and conditions. She also serves as Division Chief of Joint Replacement and Reconstruction for the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery here at UT Southwestern.

We can't wait to see Dr. Boyle expand the orthopaedic surgery practice at Parkland.



## Dr. McIntosh awarded the SRS Hibbs Award for study on early-onset scoliosis surgery

Congratulations to UT Southwestern Orthopaedic Surgery Professor and Scottish Rite faculty, **Amy McIntosh, M.D.**, as well as **Karina Zapata, Ph.D.**, and **Charlie Johnston, M.D.** for winning the **SRS Hibbs Award for Best Clinical Research Paper** at this year's **SRS Annual Meeting**.

Their study, "Wait to Operate: Surgery Demonstrated No Pulmonary Benefit Compared

to Non-Operative Treatment in EOS Patients", analyzed nearly two decades of data and found that pulmonary function declined at similar rates in both surgical and non-operative groups — challenging long-held assumptions about early-onset scoliosis surgery.

This work is shaping the future of pediatric spine care and underscores the need for continued research to guide evidence-based treatment for children with complex conditions.



## Top Story

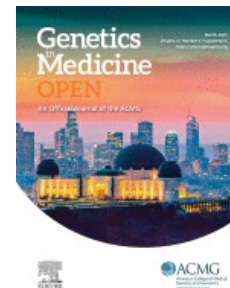


### Turf toe: What athletes need to know about this painful injury | UT Southwestern Medical Center MedBlog

Turf toe can sideline athletes for weeks. More serious injuries can require surgery and months of recovery. Learn about symptoms and treatment plus how to reduce your risk.

[Read More](#)

## Top Publication



### Biallelic SLC13A1 loss-of-function variants result in impaired sulfate transport and skeletal phenotypes, including short stature, scoliosis, and skeletal dysplasia

Biallelic loss-of-function variants in SLC13A1 are a novel cause of skeletal phenotypes in humans with a measurable biomarker. Sulfate measurements should be considered in the clinical interpretation of variants identified in SLC13A1 .

[Read More](#)

## Faculty News

### Happy One Year Anniversary to Dr. Chen!

It has been one year since our department chair, **Antonia Chen, M.D.**, joined UT Southwestern Orthopaedic Surgery!

"It has been a true pleasure working with everyone in the UTSW orthopaedic department over this past year. The faculty, staff, residents, medical students, fellows, and alumni have all been incredibly welcoming and have worked hard together to embrace change." says Dr.



Chen. "I look forward to continuing to grow our Orthopaedic department in the coming years, and making UTSW a powerhouse for musculoskeletal care."

Congratulations Dr. Chen, and we are lucky to have you in our leadership.



## 2025 Sarcoma Strong Run Dallas

Earlier this month was the **2025 Sarcoma Strong 5K** run and walk in Dallas!

The run raises awareness for sarcoma and proceeds go to sarcoma research. It was a huge success thanks to the work of **Alexandra Callan, M.D.** and the **Southwestern Running Club**.

Thank you to everyone who attended the run this past weekend and took part in this meaningful cause. We are looking forward to next year's event!



## Research News

### Top Research News:

**Lyda Hill Philanthropies Awards Scottish Rite for Children \$1 Million to Study ACL Injury Prevention in Young Female Athletes**



Movement science researchers at Scottish Rite for Children have received a \$1 million grant from Lyda Hill Philanthropies to fund, in part, two projects addressing the concerning rise of ACL injuries in young female athletes. According to studies published in **The American Journal of Sports Medicine**, adolescent female athletes are at the highest risk of suffering an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury: 29 times more likely than adult women and eight times more likely than their adolescent male counterparts.

[Read More](#)

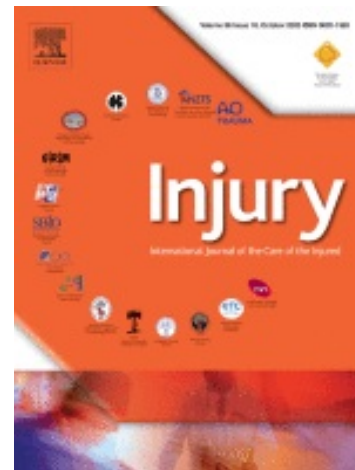
## Top Research Publications:



### Decreasing Trends in Arthroscopic Treatment of Knee Osteoarthritis After Publication of the 2013 Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Clinical Practice Guidelines

This analysis demonstrates a change in practice trends after publication of the 2013 AAOS CPG. Both overall and age cohort-specific arthroscopic utilization rates consistently decreased year over year for all cohorts in accordance with the publication of the 2013 AAOS CPG.

[Read More](#)



### Percutaneous screw fixation of pubic symphysis disruption

Percutaneous fixation of the pubic symphysis is a relatively novel treatment strategy in the management of pelvic ring injuries with symphyseal disruption. While the current gold standard for surgical treatment of pubic symphysis diastasis is open reduction and plate fixation, high rates of implant ...

[Read More](#)



### Save the Date: Residency Program Interviews

The **UT Southwestern Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program** interviews will be held on **Wednesday, January 7, 2026** and **Thursday, January 8, 2026**.

There will be more information to come. Please email [Lorraine Valdez](#) if you have any questions.



# Residency Program Interview Dates 2026

JANUARY  
**7**

UTSW Orthopaedic  
Surgery Residency  
interview day

JANUARY  
**8**

UTSW Orthopaedic  
Surgery Residency  
interview day

### Ortho Journal Club turn Techno!

This month, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery residents and faculty gathered together for another Journal Club series. The theme was **Techno, Tuxedos, and Technology!**

The group discussed the future and technology advancements of orthopaedic surgery with a funky twist.

We are looking forward to the next Journal Club!



## Upcoming Events

### Weight Wellness Day 2025

September 27, 2025 | UT Southwestern  
Medical Center (Main Campus)

**Weight Wellness Day** is a free community

## Weight Wellness Day



event that is open to UT Southwestern employees, patients, family members, and friends. The event will feature talks from UT Southwestern experts including Keely Boyle, M.D. from the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

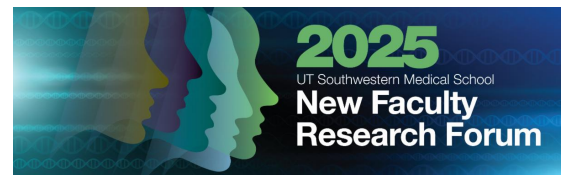
[Click here](#) to register today.

## 2025 UT Southwestern New Faculty Research Forum

October 14, 2025 | T. Boone Pickens Conference Center (Main Campus)

The **New Faculty Research Forum** has fostered collaborations among our researchers and cultivated the environment of innovation and discovery. This year's event will introduce 14 speakers to our research community from different departments and schools across campus.

[Click here](#) to register.



## State Fair Clásico: UT Southwestern Discount State Fair Tickets Available!

October 18, 2025 | Cotton Bowl (Fair Park)

UT Southwestern is proud to support **Dallas Trinity FC** as they host their inaugural **State Fair Clásico**, facing **Club América Femenil** at the historic Cotton Bowl on **Saturday, October 18, at 4:00**. As the Official Health Care Partner of DTFC, we're pleased to offer faculty, staff, and learners the opportunity to be part of this exciting matchup.

Your discounted ticket includes admission to the State Fair of Texas and entry to the game. Click the [link](#) to purchase your tickets for \$20 each. For more information on discounted tickets from our other sports partners, visit UTSW's employee discount page.



## Department News

### APP Celebration Week is this week!

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery would like to thank our **Advanced Practice Provider team** for the hard work they do in orthopaedic care. Led by **Taylor Shepard, M.S.N., APRN-CNP, AGNP-C**, our APPs work alongside our Orthopaedic Surgery faculty to provide superb patient care across North Texas.

APP Celebration week is going on throughout this week. UT Southwestern Orthopaedic Surgery is proud of our APP team.

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center  
Orthopaedic Surgery



**September 22 - September 26, 2025**

### Ortho Ignite: 2025 Staff Retreat

UT Southwestern Orthopaedic Surgery hosted a **department staff retreat** for our administrative and clinical teams. The theme was **Ortho Ignite**.

This was a chance to bond, get to know each other better, team build, and brainstorm ways to strengthen our department.

We event got the chance to hear from our department chair, **Antonia Chen, M.D.**, about how the department is moving toward the future of orthopaedic surgery. We had a great time and look forward to the next staff retreat.



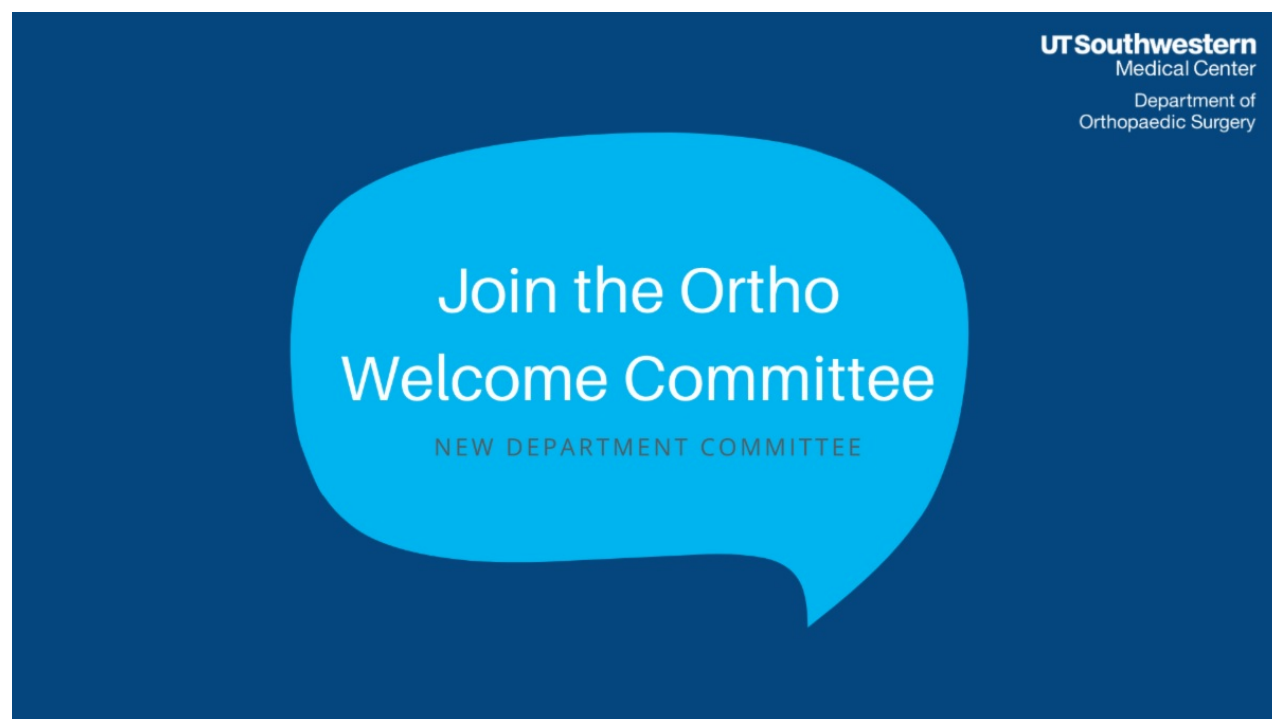




## Join the new Ortho Welcome Committee!

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery is putting together an **Ortho Welcome Committee**. This committee will bring initiatives to help welcome new faculty and staff that join our department and provide a hospitable environment.

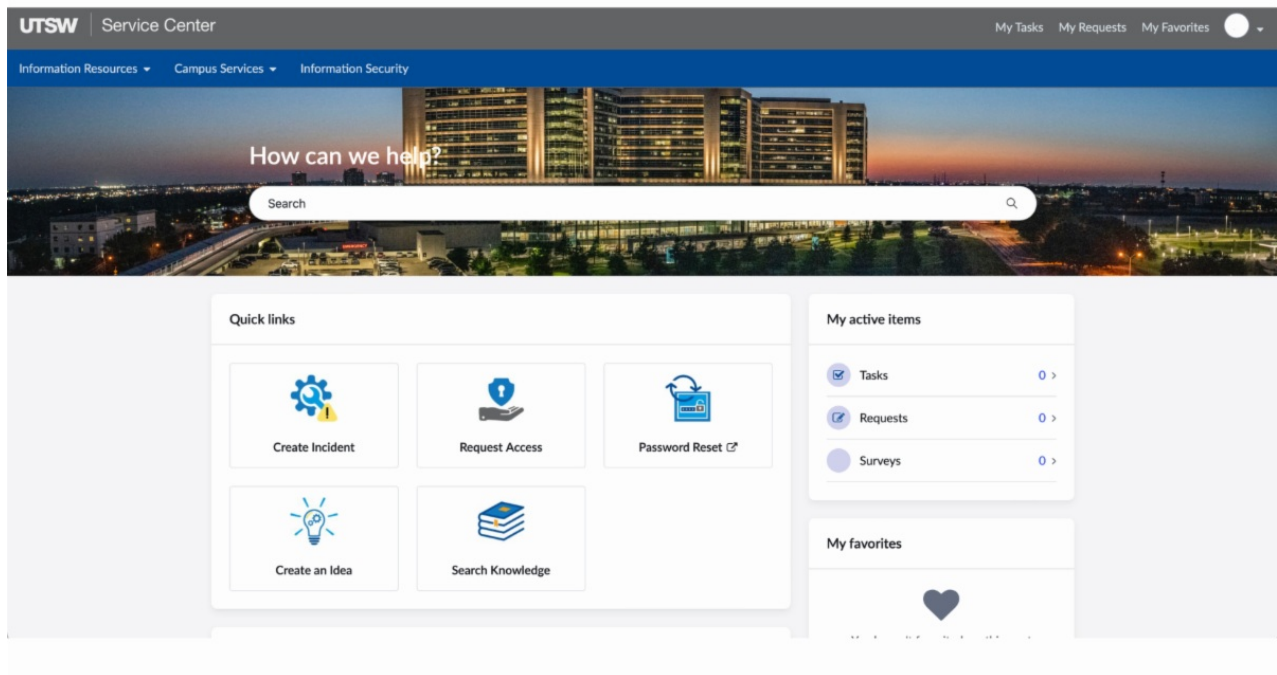
We are looking for members! If you would like to sign up, please contact [Porsche Bates](#).



## Now Live: New ServiceNow Center

The UT Southwestern Information Resources (IR) team has introduced this month the new **UTSW Service Center portal**. It is a user-friendly portal featuring an enhanced ServiceNow catalog, a robust knowledge base, and powerful search tools to help easily request services and find information you need.

[Click here](#) to explore the new portal.



## Department Announcements



### Share Your UT Southwestern Pride with Talent Acquisition

**UT Southwestern Talent Acquisitions** team is looking for employees to spotlight on the institution's social media accounts.

If you love working at UT Southwestern and for our department, [click here](#) to fill out the **Talent Acquisition Team Employee Spotlight Survey: Orthopaedic Surgery**.

Share your answers and help the team recruit other great team members to join us!

### New Headshots? Sign up for your professional headshot today!

Whether you have already had a photo taken or need a new one, sessions are available for UT Southwestern faculty and staff to have professional headshots taken at Clements University Hospital. The sessions take about 10 minutes and require sign ups in advance.

[Click here](#) to sign up for a spot today!



**Reminder: Updating Faculty Profiles (.edu and .org)**

# UT Southwestern Medical Center Orthopaedic Surgery



Do you know you can update your ".edu" and ".org" profile with a click of a button?

The Department of Marketing, Communications and Public Affairs has built portals for physicians to access their profile anytime to update their information. **PUMA** gives you access to your clinical profile (.org), and **Profile+** is where you can access your academic profile (.edu).

For questions, please contact [Orthopaedic Marketing](#).

## Get In Touch



### Contact Ortho Marketing Today!

Have questions about this newsletter or want to be featured in an upcoming edition? Reach out to Marilyn Clark from the Orthopaedic Surgery Marketing team for any inquiries related to department marketing or newsletter submissions.

Email at [orthopaedicmarketing@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:orthopaedicmarketing@utsouthwestern.edu)

Stay up-to-date on physician news by clicking the computer icon and visit the UT Southwestern Orthopaedics Physician Portal.



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