

REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST
AND
PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Andrew Burgess
UT Houston

- Consultant to Stryker
- On AO faculty (Q 3-4 yrs)

REFLECTIONS

- Risks of "Reflecting"
- Portray early times from point of view of:
 - Hero
 - Victim



REFLECTIONS

- History of the profession
- History of OTA
- Primarily a North American viewpoint

REFLECTIONS

- General Surgeons as Fracture Doctors
- Orthopaedics as a "New Specialty"
- North American Model
- John Border
- SUNY Buffalo

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- History of the profession
- History of OTA

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- A Vision: 1977
- Early leaders OTCSG Orthopaedic Trauma Center Study
 - Gustillo
 - Bovill
 - Chapman

SF General,
neighborhood Vietnamese r

Mike Distefano

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- Institutions: by invitation
 - LA County
 - SF General
 - Harborview
 - Denver General
 - Cook County
 - Boston City

Mike Distefano

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- A Vision
 - Early leaders: OTCSG
 - Institutional membership: OTHA

Mike Distefano Orthopaedic Trauma Center Study

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- Institutions: Joined in 1978 by:
 - LA County
 - SF General
 - Harborview
 - Denver Gen
 - Cook County
 - Boston City
 - Parkland
 - Shock Trauma
 - Montefiore

Mike Disleffano

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- OTHA
- The founders
- The "Visits"
 - To Member institutions; tours and academic papers
 - Brotherhood/Sisterhood
 - Identification of Common Problems

Mike Disleffano

Reflections
On The Birth Of OTA

- Identification of Common Problems
 - Access to resources
 - Academic models developed first
 - Common successful models
 - Common failures

Mike Disleffano

EARLY FOUNDATIONS: THE NEXT
WAVE
UNDER APPRECIATED CONTRIBUTORS

- Financial
 - Al Levine
 - Brad Henley
 - Andy Pollak
- Academic
 - Mark Swiontkowski
 - Bobby Brumback
 - Mike Bosse

EARLY FOUNDATIONS

- The Journal
 - Phil Spiegel
 - Roy Sanders

EARLY FOUNDATIONS

- The influence of the AO
 - Education: didactic *and* motor skills
 - Ability to split from product promotion orientation to..
 - Foundation centered educational mission
 - Gift of Fracture Classification System
 - Lovers and Haters

THE PRESENT

- Choosing Residencies
 - Ortho Web Stuff
 - Obligation to the community
 - Creeping sense of entitlement

I don't mean to say that I don't want to work hard, but lifestyle is important to me (and a lot of other people) and I'm just wondering what the better lifestyle programs are out there. My school has a nightfloat system for ortho which works great, and it's relatively low trauma. Any other low-impact programs out there?

Tim Bray, OTA Presidential

I am looking for a program that provides a good base for trauma, but not year long q3 elbow deep in trauma cases. I am currently very interested in total joints and really don't want to have a crazy and sleepless life for five years perfecting something that will be a minority of my future cases. Any suggestions?

Tim Bray, OTA Presidential

So it is possible to have a sports practice and a decent life. Is this type of lifestyle possible with a spine practice?

Tim Bray, OTA, President

THE PRESENT

- Trauma Call for the Orthopaedic Surgeon
 - Government (taxpayer) funding of our training
 - Obligation to the community
 - Creeping sense of entitlement

Tim Bray, OTA, President

Everybody seems to forget that our government has invested a TON of money into educating us during residency. It really pisses me off to hear people whine that they can't take a job with any ER call. When we entered training, we accepted an unwritten social contract with society.

Tim Bray, OTA, President

Everyone's hard earned tax dollars supported our education with the hope that there would be a return on their investment (basic orthopaedic care without having to drive 4 hours and go through 3 ERs). To absolutely turn your backs on basic orthopaedic care just makes us all look like money hoarding #!'!!.

Tim Bray, OTA, Presidential

ENTITLEMENT

- Creeping substitution
 - Undergraduates
 - Medical Students
 - Residents
 - Fellows
 - Attendings/Partners
- Entitlement as seen by the old guard vs....
- Traumatology as a lifelong career

THE PRESENT

- Current Models
 - Full time academic (Volume dependent)
 - Trauma Faculty (full or partial compliment)
 - Level II (full time hospital employee)
 - Call pay for private docs who do most call
 - Private Practice
 - Compensation based on collections

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FULL TIME ACADEMIC TRAUMA PRACTICE THOUGHTS ABOUT SUCCESS

- Are your interests and institutional interests co-aligned?
- Does the Chairman have your back?
 - Are there academic and compensation adjustments allowing for clinical burden?
- Are the major academic centers of the department centered at the same geographic site as trauma?
 - If not, will/can the chair resist micromanagement?

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LEVEL II- FULL TIME HOSPITAL
EMPLOYEE
THOUGHTS ABOUT SUCCESS

- Is your role clearly defined?
- Call responsibilities of colleagues clearly defined?
- Access to ORs: Hospital understanding of "Urgent"
- Compensation model acceptable? Incentives?
 - Flat, vs RVU, vs billing, vs collections
- If there is clear understanding of the above issues, many issues avoided

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PRIVATE PRACTICE
THOUGHTS ABOUT SUCCESS

- Is your role clearly defined?
- Call responsibilities of colleagues clearly defined?
- Don't be their "trauma bitch"
- Compensation model acceptable? Incentives?
 - Flat, vs RVU, vs billing, vs collections
- If there is clear understanding of the above issues, including "unburdening" of your colleagues many issues avoided

PRIVATE PRACTICE COMPENSATION
OBSERVATIONS FROM THE SIDELINES

- Compensation Models
 - Early Salary
 - Is it a loan?
 - Bonus base
 - Partnership
 - RVU or Billing reflecting work
 - Collections
 - Combination of above
- How did it blow up?

THE FUTURE

- Analogy to Trauma General Surgery
 - Trauma Surgeon
 - Trauma/Critical Care
 - Trauma/Critical Care/Emergency Surgery

THE FUTURE

- Orthopaedic Traumatologist
- Ortho Traumatologist/Fracture Surgeon
- Ortho Traumatologist/Fracture Surgeon/Ortho Hospitalist

ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITALIST

- High Energy Musculoskeletal Trauma
- Fracture Care
- Fragility Fractures
- Diabetic Lower Extremity, etc.

ORTHOPAEDIC ENTITLEMENT¹

- "I'm fellowship trained in":
 - Sports
 - Joints
 - Spine...etc.
- And therefore can't take general call

ORTHOPAEDIC ENTITLEMENT²

- "I do the vast majority of my work in a surgicenter"...
- And therefore can't take general call

ORTHOPAEDIC ENTITLEMENT³

- "I only have privileges in my subspecialty".....
- And therefore can't take general call

EXTERNAL ISSUES
AND EFFECTS ON YOUR PRACTICE

- Changes in General Surgery Programs
 - Often no Orthopaedic rotation
- Changes in Vascular Surgery
 - Endovascular skill has supplanted familiarity with:
 - Gross local anatomy
 - Fasciotomy skills

EXTERNAL ISSUES
AND EFFECTS ON YOUR PRACTICE

- Airbag/Seatbelt
- Body Armor and Helmets

- Have resulted in more severe extremity injuries
- By changing the denominator
