Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Hello and hope all is well with you! It’s been quite awhile since our first newsletter, but a lot has happened in the Penn Emergency Department and we are eager to give you an update and to hear from you.

First of all, it was the end of an era when Bill Baxt stepped down as Chair on June 30, 2011. After 17 years of incredible dedication and service to Emergency Medicine at Penn, his tenure was duly celebrated at a luncheon in his honor with speeches, pictures spanning the decades, sushi (Bill’s favorite, as you recall), and some nostalgic moments. It was hard to believe the amazing changes that took place in the department under Bill’s leadership: a residency, EMTRAC, numerous faculty recruits and promotions, an EMS command station, outstanding grants and research publications, new divisions, ultrasound, etc, etc, etc. A portrait is in the works as we speak.

And that brings us to the most important news…welcome to our new Chair, Jill M. Baren, MD, MBE, FACEP, FAAP. Jill has brought her enthusiasm, outstanding leadership skills, and vision to our department and many exciting changes are in progress. A creative strategic planning process is underway and numerous organizational changes have been outlined to take Penn EM to the next level. Jill is absolutely committed to achieving excellence in all our missions: clinical care, education, research, and community service. New office space, a newly organized ED observation unit, a comprehensive sub-specialty fellows program, major emphasis on research and our center for resuscitation science, forging even stronger bonds with CHOP, and a patient-centered clinical operations philosophy are just a few of the new and existing initiatives. It is a dynamic time and there will be more updates as we move into the second year of Jill’s term as Chair. Very exciting!
A word from our new Chair:

Dear Penn EM Residency Alumni:

I couldn’t be more pleased to be the new Chair of such an exceptional Department of Emergency Medicine. I have been active in the national emergency medicine scene for many years and I can say with confidence that our faculty and residents are among the very best in terms of talent and commitment to the specialty. All of you represent our legacy and serve as ambassadors for our program far and wide. We have alumni practicing emergency medicine in at least 25 States and 2 countries. Alumni serve as ED Directors, academic faculty, directors of specialty fellowships, cutting edge researchers, global emergency medicine builders, and government appointees influencing policy. Penn EM was and will continue to be the common bond that we share. I have heard from many of you this past year expressing your fond memories and good wishes and I am excited to be able to reconnect with you in Denver. Please drop us a line and let us know what you are up to and consider making the trip to join us at the Penn EM Alumni reception.

All the best,

Jill M. Baren

EM Residency News

The residency has continued to flourish under the unwavering leadership of Francis DeRoos. Lauren Weinberger Conlon joined the faculty last year and is the Assistant Residency Director, bringing a strong interest and expertise in simulation to the department. The residents continue to be fantastic: bright, enthusiastic and dedicated to our specialty. They are still the bedrock of the clinical care we deliver every day. The Seniors are graduating soon...time for irreverent stories, off-color skits, and some roasting of faculty....remember your graduation?
Save the date!

Our other big news is that we want to get serious about our PENN EM Alumni Association and so we are planning our first Penn EM Alumni Reception at the ACEP Scientific Assembly in Denver, Oct 8-11, 2012. The reception will be held on Tuesday, October 9, 2012 from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. We are excited to see you all and catch up in person about career, life, and the passing of time. More information to follow as soon as we have location specifics.

One of our chiefs, Kerri Friend, has put together a quick one page form/survey so that we can begin to collect information from you to share with the alumni group. Please fill out the form and return to Clem Mackiewicz – EM Residency Coordinator soon.

We are excited to catch up and learn about what you are up to these days. Please send pics and updates so we can share them with fellow alums.
Profile on William Roper, MD

Dr. Bill Roper, HUP Emergency Medicine Residency class of 2010, hails from Salt Lake City, Utah. He came to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania because “the trauma in Philly is more interesting than the trauma in Utah.” He notes that over the last six years (2006-2012), Philadelphia has felt like home because of the great department, friends, and food the city has to offer. “The HUP residents, attendings, nurses, and support staff made the transition to Philly easy,” he says. “HUP became my home away from home.” Since moving to Philadelphia, he and his wife, “Sweet Gina,” have welcomed Xander (3 years old) and Luca (3 weeks old) into their family.

Upon graduating, Dr. Roper worked at Delaware County Memorial Hospital for a year, and then transitioned back to HUP in 2011. Now, a couple years after graduation, Dr. Roper has secured one of the rare and coveted jobs back in Salt Lake City. “Thanks to the great training I received at HUP,” says Dr. Roper, “I feel very comfortable working both in the community and in academia.” In Salt Lake City he will divide his time between two hospitals: the VA hospital adjacent to the University of Utah campus and Mountain West, a small community hospital outside of Salt Lake City. He notes, “With my move to Salt Lake, it looks like I will trade cocaine for methamphetamines and gunshot trauma for rooster and large animal trauma.” Although Dr. Roper is sad to leave HUP, he feels well-prepared to take on this new experience, and is happy to show off his birthplace to any HUP alumni who find their way to Salt Lake City. He can be contacted at billroper@gmail.com.

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The Roper family
University of Pennsylvania Department of Emergency Medicine
Alumni Information Questionnaire
Email to mackiewc@uphs.upenn.edu or fax to 215-662-3953

1. Name:

2. Graduation Year:

3. Preferred email:
   Alternate email:

4. Current Job with brief description: (include full-time or part-time; community or academic; rural, suburban or urban)

5. Prior positions:

6. Areas of interest/fellowships:

7. Any big life or career events; awards, accomplishments:

8. Would it be ok for residents to contact you during their job search?

9. How can the Penn Dept of EM Alumni Organization be of service to you? Please share any ideas you may have about our new group.

10. We do not have accurate information for some of your classmates. If you keep in touch, please list names and email addresses so that we can update our information.

Completed forms should be emailed or faxed to Clem Mackiewicz at mackiewc@uphs.upenn.edu or 215-662-3953(fax)