Switching Gears in Academic Surgery

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Disclosures

• None
7 Attributes of the Academic Surgeon

- Identify complex problem that others have ignored or thought unsolvable
- Become an expert in the field
- Innovate new insights, treatments, or procedures to advance that clinical problem
- Observe new treatment outcomes closely to further improve such innovations
- Spread knowledge and expertise through publications and presentations
- Ask important questions in the field to try to further improve care
- Train the next generation of surgeons and scientists

The Gears of Academic Surgery
Clinical Practice – Unless professors of surgery are actually capable surgeons, the whole structure of American surgery is threatened with collapse. (The Skill of the Surgeon)

Research – For our discipline’s continuing advance, surgery needs future teachers, anxious to create and atmosphere that will encourage research and creative scholarship. (The Science of the Surgeon)

The Soul of the Surgeon – The commitment to the highest standards of responsibility and compassion.

The Gears of Life

Values
- Self
- Family
- Work
- Community

Time
- Self
- Work
- Family
- Community

Reverse

2 modified from the concepts found at: http://www.totalleadership.org/
Professional Goals in 2004

• Impact
  – Modify educational processes
  – Improve surgical disparities
  – Provide compassionate evidence-based care

• Deliverables
  – R01 funded investigator
  – Full professor in 14 years
Career Trajectory (2005-2009)

Step 1
Career Trajectory (2010-2014)

Lessons Learned:
A champion would have been nice but not better. Switching gears required me to become an expert across disciplines.

Deliverables:
- R01 submitted.
- Associate Professor of Surgery.
Career Trajectory (2015-present)

Deliverables:
R01 funded.
Professor of Surgery.
Career Trajectory (2015-present)
• Manage yourself
• Shifting gears may accelerate your success
• Shifting gears may retard your success
• Shifting gears is an example of adaptability
• Shifting gears is a natural part of growth and development
• Be deliberate when you shift.
Thank You.
Color Palette

- Pantone 7435
  R-134 G-18 B-78

- Pantone 7455
  R-18 G-104 B-179

- Pantone 640
  R-0 G-136 B-164

- Pantone 2607
  R-81 G-43 B-139

- Pantone 2746
  R-26 G-59 B-142

- Pantone 7527
  R-226 G-221 B-203

- Pantone 5523
  R-196 G-223 B-226

- Pantone 650
  R-199 G-217 B-234

- Pantone 428
  R-197 G-203 B-209
Here is What A Graph Looks Like
The Gears within the Gears (Research)

Implementation Science
Health Services Research
Clinical Trials
Reverse
Community Engagement
Other