Building an Education Research Team

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Disclosures

• No relevant disclosures
• This is my first time at the Fall Courses
• I am still building my education research team
• My resources are very limited
Where Do You Even Start?
What I Learned in Fellowship

Take Advantage of Opportunities
Laying the Groundwork
Seek Roles Unique to Trainees

**Surgical Subspecialization: Escape Route for Surgeons or Added Benefit for Patients?**
Meredith J. Sorensen, MD

**Journal of Graduate Medical Education**

**SPECIAL BOOK REVIEW**

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Meredith J. Sorensen, MD
Establish Yourself As an Educator
(i.e. Get Your New Institution to Take You Seriously)
Own Your Interest in Education

• Talk about it during job interviews
• Bring original ideas
• Seek a formal “role” if possible
What I Learned As Junior Faculty
Create Your Own Opportunities
You May Have to Be Your Own Mentor...

• What if no one is doing similar work?
• What if no one at your institution has ever even done education research?

  1) Look harder
  2) Seek faculty development opportunities
Participate in National Programs

Surgical Education Research Fellowship Overview

ASE Surgical Education Research Fellowship – Sponsored by Ethicon Endo-Surgery

Since its founding in 1980, the goals and activities of the ASE have been predicated on seeking and promulgating educationally and scientifically sound answers to the many complex questions, issues and concerns that are integral to the advancement of surgical education. In 1993, the ASE established the ASE Foundation to secure and distribute grant funds to researchers, educators and clinicians interested in investigating such questions and issues.

One of the Foundation’s most popular and recognized initiatives for this purpose is the Surgical Education Research Fellowship program (SERF), a one year, home-site fellowship designed to equip investigators with the skills and knowledge needed to plan, implement and report research studies in the field of surgical education. Following
Network!
Right at Home
Institutional Resources

• Department of Medical Education
• Other Educators
  – Program directors
  – Clerkship directors
• Attend other departments’ grand rounds
• Other Schools
  – School of Education
  – Business school
  – Psychology, sociology, anthropology
Network!
Outside your own institution
National Organizations

• AAS: Association for Academic Surgery
• ASE: Association for Surgical Education
• APDS: Association of Program Directors in Surgery
• ACS: American College of Surgeons
• AAMC: Association of American Medical Colleges
Invite Guests

• Bring in educators to give grand rounds
• Meet with them
• Collaborate
Social Media

• #notmystrength
• Many collaborations have been born on Twitter
• Follow
  – @AcadMedJournal
  – @JSurgEduc
  – @JournalofGME
  – @Surg_Education
  – Others?
Develop Your Farm System
Inspire (and be inspired by) Your Trainees
Make Education Research a “Thing”
Become Part of Your Institution’s Culture
TEACHERS Conference

• The Education And Collaborative research Engaging Residents in Surgery
• Meet once a month
• Core group of faculty: program director, associate program directors, clerkship directors
• All interested residents (research & clinical)
• Idea exchange
• Creates system of informal peer review
• Sets up accountability
• Dedicated time for practice talks, abstract/manuscript review
Summary

• If you are still in training, take advantage of current institution’s resources and unique opportunities geared toward trainees
• Build credibility as an educator
• Seek relevant faculty development opportunities wherever you can
• Network—at home and more broadly
• Collaborate
• Mentor and inspire the next generation
• Make education research a departmental priority
Best wishes!

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