



The SIGN Family Learns Together

By Lewis G. Zirkle, MD

For the SIGN Conference this year, we arranged more hands-on sessions to utilize optimum teaching methods used in medical schools and orthopaedic training. The evaluation of the 2017 SIGN Conference by SIGN Surgeons was very positive, and many stated they learned a great deal. The effectiveness of the SIGN Conference will be reflected in the reports sent by the SIGN Surgeons to the SIGN Database.

SIGN Family

The term “SIGN Family” refers to all people who participate in the vision

of creating equality of fracture care throughout the world. The SIGN Family is diverse as it relates to different countries of origin, but also as it relates to different occupations. SIGN Engineers and SIGN Surgeons had many discussions relating to improvement of implants, instruments, and SIGN Technique. We all value each other’s opinions as we continually improve to design better implants and instruments.

SIGN Family Connections

Another intrinsic aspect of the SIGN Conference is the connections within

the SIGN Family. When new ideas were presented in lectures and discussions, they were considered and discussed respectfully. We recognize that orthopaedic truth is elusive and many factors contribute to fracture healing. We must be humble as we evaluate orthopaedic treatment.

The Conference attendees felt that we lived up to our theme of the 2017 SIGN Conference “Creativity is intelligence having fun,” attributed to Albert Einstein.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the SIGN Conference successful.

2017 SIGN INTERNATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC CONFERENCE



Dr. Mapuor Mading celebrates with Elaine Ballou, who supported his education, after learning that he passed his final residency exams.



Dr. Richard Gellman, a SIGN Board member, led two sessions of a workshop on treating deformities. These hands-on workshops allow surgeons from different backgrounds to work together and learn from their diverse experiences.



Dr. Sami Hailu leads a discussion on pelvic fractures. He will lead the first pelvic fracture fellowship in Africa.



Despite the cold weather, SIGN Surgeons enjoyed the company of their colleagues and the beautiful Richland community.



The diversity of experience, talent, and viewpoints shared by SIGN Surgeons promotes innovation and improvement.



SIGN Surgeons got hands on experience with new SIGN Products, like this Bone Mill.

2017 SIGN

INTERNATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC CONFERENCE



Dr. Norgrove Penny (second left) leads a Ponsetti workshop, teaching non-surgical correction of clubfoot deformities.



The SIGN Conference brought together 126 SIGN Surgeons from 22 countries to teach and learn from each other.



The SIGN Family Reunion brings together surgeons, staff, and supporters from around the world.

New Educational Opportunities

At the 2017 SIGN Conference, we had a new opportunity for surgeons to gain hands-on surgical experience—a mobile cadaver lab. This lab, provided by STI Mobile, provides the closest simulation to surgery on live patients. Many surgeons from developing countries had never practiced surgery on a human cadaver, so this provided them the chance to experiment with new procedures and techniques. Most of the attendees said that their session in the cadaver lab was the highlight of the Conference.

Thank you to STI Mobile, Acumed, Kadlec, Einan's at Sunset, and OrthoMed for their donations and support of this incredible educational opportunity.



Dr. Patrick Yoon (left) guides SIGN Surgeons through a procedure before they practice it on their own cadaver.



Dr. William Ricci, the keynote speaker of the Conference, takes part in the foot and ankle cadaver lab.

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Please join us!
Tickets are on Sale!

WINE
DINE
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Tri-Cities Benefit

Saturday, October 21, 2017

Social Hour Begins
at 5:00 p.m.

THREE RIVERS
CONVENTION CENTER

Seats are filling up!
Call today for tickets!

Tickets & RSVP

Single \$50

Table of 10 \$500

Call (509) 371-1107 &
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