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Benjamin Cullen, DPM, FACFAS

Current Position

Director, Scripps Podiatric Surgical Residency (2020-current)

Assistant Director, Scripps Podiatric Surgical Residency (2013-2019)

Private Practice, San Diego Podiatry Group (August 2013 – Present)

- Member of three doctor podiatric surgical group practice. Provide conservative and surgical management of the complete spectrum of foot and ankle disorders
- Provide instruction to nine podiatry residents as well as rotating podiatric medical students in academic, clinical and operating room scenarios
- Lecturer at didactic sessions/journal clubs/cadaver workshops
- On panel for rearfoot and ankle trauma call as well as podiatry call at Scripps Mercy
- Coordinate administration of the residency program

Training

Kaiser Hayward Podiatric Surgical Residency, Hayward, California. PM&S-36

July 2010 – June 2013

- Extensive training in all aspects of podiatric medicine and surgery under the guidance of six very accomplished attending physicians, including two prior ACFAS presidents
- Considerable experience in trauma, reconstruction, limb salvage and elective cases
- Consistently stellar scores on evaluations by attending physicians and patients
- Directly influenced and shaped the program by organizing didactic sessions and providing guidelines for future residents
- Sponsored by Kaiser's Global Health Program as one of the first residents to travel on a surgical mission in Vietnam. Functioned as a lead surgeon in reconstructing a wide variety of complex traumatic and congenital lower extremity deformities

Education

California School of Podiatric Medicine, Oakland, California

August 2006 – June 2010

- Doctor of Podiatric Medicine, Magna Cum Laude
- Scholastic Activities:
 - President, ACFAS, CSPM student chapter (2008-2009)
 - Secretary, Alpha Gamma Kappa fraternity (2007-2008)
 - Prosecution Coordinator (2007-2008)
 - Vice President, Class of 2010 (2007-2008)
 - Chair, Educational Committee for Class of 2010 (2006-2007)
 - Member, Pi Delta Podiatric Honor Society
- Awards/Scholarships:
 - PICA (2009), PMEAC (2009), APMA (2009, 2008), FFE(2009, 2008)
ACFAS (2009), Podiatric Medicine (2009), Wong (2008)
Summit Volunteers (2008), CSPM Alumni & Associates (2008)
 - Total Scholarships: \$20,084

University of California at Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, California

August 1999 – June 2003

- Bachelor of Arts, Economics (with honors) and Psychology (with honors)

Presentations

- *1st MPJ Implant Arthroplasty* Lecture given at 2024 ACFAS ASC pre-conference workshop
- *Controversies in Digital Surgery* Moderator for podcast at 2024 ACFAS ASC
- *Residency Directors Panel Discussion* Panelist at 2024 ACFAS ASC
- *Calcaneal Osteotomies and Haglund's Resection* Presentation at 2023 ACFAS ASC pre-conference workshop
- *Posterior Tibial Tendon Transfer* Presentation at 2023 ACFAS ASC pre-conference workshop
- *Controversies in Bunion Surgery*, Moderator for podcast at 2023 ACFAS ASC
- *Controversies in Charcot Surgery*, Moderator for podcast at 2023 ACFAS ASC
- *Soft Tissue Pathology of the Ankle*, Lecture given at December 2022 ACFAS Arthroscopy Course
- *Flatfoot Calcaneal Osteotomies* Lecture given at 2022 ACFAS ASC pre-conference workshop
- *Cheilectomy vs Osteotomy for Hallux Rigidus* Lecture given at 2022 ACFAS ASC
- *Acute Peroneal Injuries: When to Fix, When to Rehab* Lecture given at 2022 ACFAS ASC
- *How I Woke Up From Hammertoe Nightmare* Lecture given at 2022 ACFAS ASC
- *Pes Cavus*, Moderator for Podcast at 2022 ACFAS ASC
- *AITFL Repair With Ankle Fractures* Lecture given at the 2021 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Proximal 1st Metatarsal Osteotomy For Hallux Rigidus* Lecture given at the 2020 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Bridge-plating Lisfranc Fractures: The New Standard of Care?* Lecture given at the 2019 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Soft Tissue Pathology of the Ankle*, Lecture given at July 2019 ACFAS Arthroscopy Course
- *Pain management*, Moderator for podcast at 2019 ACFAS ASC
- *Forefoot Deformity in Lateral Ankle Instability*, Lecture given at 2019 ACFAS ASC pre-conference workshop
- *You put what on that wound?!* Lecture given at the 2018 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Open Fracture Management*, Lecture given at the 2017 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Calcaneal fracture*, panelist for podcast for July 2017 eACFAS e-learning
- *Mueller-Weiss Syndrome*, lecture given at the 2016 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Bulk Osteochondral Allograft Transplant of the Talus*, lecture given at the 2015 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Early to Midterm Results in Cheilectomy vs Decompressional Osteotomy*, lecture given at the 2014 San Diego Podiatry Institute Seminar
- *Posterior Malleolar Fracture Fixation*, lecture given at the 2013 ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference
- *Rate of Revision Following Cheilectomy vs Plantarflexory Decompressional Osteotomy For Early Stage Hallux Rigidus*, poster presented at the 2013 ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference

Publications

- *Patient Reported Outcomes Following Triple Arthrodesis for Adult Acquired Flat Foot Deformity: Minimum Two Year Follow Up.* Sakkab R, MacRae TM, Diaz R, Cullen BD. J Foot Ankle Surg 2024 May-Jun;63(3):319-323
- *Influence of Surgical Approach and Fixation on Complications in Talus Fractures: A Multicenter Review.* Sakkab R, MacRae TM, Diaz R, Cullen BD. J Foot Ankle Surg. 2023 Dec 8:S1067-2516(23)00313-7
- *The Effectiveness of Topical Cannabidiol in Symptomatic Relief of Peripheral Neuropathy of the Lower Extremities,* article published in Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology 2020 Volume 21 Issue 5
- *Rate of Revision After Cheilectomy vs Decompression Osteotomy in Early-Stage Hallux Rigidus,* article published in May 2017 JFAS
- *Early Results with Use of the Midfoot Fusion Bolt in Charcot Arthropathy,* article published in March 2013 JFAS. Research also presented as a poster at the 2012 ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference
- *Soft Tissue Pathology of the Ankle,* article published in July 2011 Clinics in Podiatric Medicine and Surgery

Licenses

- California State License (Exp 12/2025)
- DEA (Exp 08/2024)
- Department of Public Health X-ray Supervisor and Operator (Exp 06/2025)

Certifications/Continuing Education

- Diplomate, American Board of Podiatric Medicine (Exp 12/2023)
- Diplomate, American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (Exp 08/2026)
- NBPME Part 1,2,3
- AO Beginner/Advanced/Master's Courses
- ACFAS Ankle Arthroscopy course (2011)
- ACFAS 1st MTPJ A-Z workshop (2011)
- Attended ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference 2009-2013, 2015-17, 2020, 2022, 2023
- Assistant Chairman for Podiatry Institute September 2013-22 meetings in San Diego

Affiliations

- Faculty, AO North America (2022-present)
- San Diego County Podiatric Medical Society (2013 – present)
 - Member-at-large 2013-2014
 - Secretary 2014-2015
 - President-elect 2015-2017
 - President 2017-2019
 - Past President 2020
 - Member-At-Large 2021 - present
- ACFAS (2006 – present)
- APMA (2006 – present)
- CPMA (2006 – present)
- Expert Consultant, Podiatric Medical Board of California, 2024 - present

Work Experience

- Resident Assistant (August 2007 – June 2009)
 - Samuel Merritt University, Oakland, Ca
 - Provided orientation, leadership, and guidance to 21 students living on my floor of the campus dormitory
- Research Assistant (January 2006 – June 2006)
 - Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine, San Diego, California
 - Participated in a team investigating the effect of holistic medicine techniques on symptoms in patients with complex medical conditions
- Sales Associate (January 2003 – March 2004)
 - The UPS Store, Santa Cruz, California
 - Designed and built custom wooden crates for shipping fragile/expensive items, provided quality service to a diverse customer demographic

Committees

- Member, ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference Committee, 2024
- Faculty, ACFAS Arthroscopy Course, July 2019, December 2021, December 2022, March 2024
- Section Chief, Podiatry, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego (2018-2022)
- Member, ACFAS Education and Scientific Affairs Committee (2018-2024)
- Senior Editor, ACFAS Scientific Literature Reviews (2020-2022)
- Editor, ACFAS Scientific Literature Reviews (2017-2019)
- Peer Review Editor, JFAS, (July 2018-2022)
- Online Review Judge, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021 ACFAS ASC Posters
- Field Tester, American Board of Podiatric Medicine (2013-current)
- California Podiatric Medical Association
 - Medicare committee 2015-17
 - MIPS committee 2016-17
- Member, Scripps Mercy Physician Partners Membership Committee (2/4/14 – current)
 - Retain/recruit members to group
- Member, Surgery Advisory Committee Scripps Mercy Hospital (2014 - current)
 - Review current best practices for surgical subspecialties

Volunteerism

- Coordinator of Foot Screening at San Diego Take Control of Your Diabetes Convention (2014-2019)
- Susan G. Komen cancer walk foot screening tent September 2008

Personal Info

- Other Languages: Medical and conversational Spanish, basic French
- Background: Born and raised in Chico, California. Youngest of four children
- Family: Married to ER nurse, two children
- Hobbies: Hiking, biking, snowboarding, surfing, golf, travel

Honors

- CPMA Rising Star Award 2018
- Sergeant-at-Arms, 2019 CPMA House of Delegates