## Seattle Institute for Biomedical and Clinical Research

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# FEATURE

Bruce Sangeorzan, MD, is the Director of the VA Rehabilitation Research and Development Center of Excellence for Limb Loss Prevention and Prosthetic Engineering, as well as Professor and Vice Chairman of Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine at the University of Washington. He is also the Chief of the Department of Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine at Harborview Medical Center. Dr. Sangeorzan's clinical research focuses on the study of lower extremity mechanical function and its relationship to disease. He is a recipient of the American Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Society Roger A. Mann M.D. Award for outstanding clinical paper, an Orthopedic Research and Education Foundation Award, the AMSUS Award for contributions to military care, and the Paul B. Magnuson Award, the highest honor for VA rehabilitation investigators. His 20+ years of research and clinical interests are focused on the biomechanics and treatment of injury and deformity of musculoskeletal conditions of the foot and ankle.

Bruce Sangeorzan, MD In the early 1990s, Dr. Sangeorzan and his colleagues began studies on the impact of intra-articular

fractures of the calcaneus and talus. The subtalar joint is responsible for side to side motion and it acts as a shock absorber for the limb. Fractures of these bones enter the joint and disrupt its function. They found that fractures of the talus were more disruptive than fractures of the calcaneous, in part because of the locations of the fracture relative to the joint. These studies combined to create a clearer understanding of the mechanics of the bones of the foot.

Through previous VA R&D Merit Review and now an NIH grant administered by SIBCR, Dr. Sangeorzan and his colleagues are studying the outcomes of ankle arthrodesis (fusion) compared to ankle arthroplasty (replacement) in the surgical treatment of end-stage ankle arthritis. This current study has several innovative characteristics, including the fact that it is the first-ever Randomized Controlled Trial with the option of a comprehensive cohort design. In simpler terms, study participants can choose to randomize to surgery or select their preferred surgical treatment in consultation with their surgeon. Dr. Sangeorzan and his research team aim to provide data that could lead to the development of clinical guidelines for end-stage ankle arthritis.

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

SIBCR's Benefits Fair will be held Thursday, October 18th at 10 AM in bldg. 1, room 240. Please join us for information regarding our 2013 benefits. Vendors will be on site and there will be raffle prizes, food and fun. More info to come and look for extra voluntary benefits coming in 2013!

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### Introducing: Nicole Baker, PHR , HR Specialist

Hello SIBCR! I am excited to join SIBCR as an HR Specialist and look forward to getting to know our members and staff. I have worked in Human Resources for over 8 years, received my Bachelor's degree in HR Management from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and have a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) certification. I have worked in a variety of HR related roles with my last position being in Talent Acquisition (Recruitment). I am a Certified Holistic Health Coach and have my own Health Coaching business, The Naturalita Wellness (www.thenaturalita.com). Please stop by and tell me something fun and unique about you, as well as introduce me to what you do as part of SIBCR!

### WELCOME!

Pratyusha Banik, Rose Beemer, Colin Behl, Alana Brooks, Megan Crawford, Clara Felker, Tsige Gebremedhin, Martha Hickey, Jenna Lebedev, Sydney Lewis, Mayumi Namekata, William Strong, Timothy Strovas, Len Tran, Christian Watson, Madeleine Werhane and Kiernan Werner