

Thank you for agreeing to be profiled for the Alumni Newsletter and our website. Please complete the following questions. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Patty Kehoe at pkehoe@sarnofffoundation.org

NAME:

1. What impact did the Sarnoff Fellowship year have on your career?

The Sarnoff Fellowship cemented my desire to pursue a career in academic cardiovascular medicine. While I had spent time during my undergraduate years in the basic science laboratory, the Sarnoff Fellowship year was the first time that I was able to spend dedicated time in the laboratory environment for a significant period of time. I was privileged to work with Professor Elazer Edelman at MIT and Brigham and Women's Hospital, and not only did the research provide me with a lifelong interest in vascular injury and repair, it offered me a real glimpse into the life of a physician-scientist – a life which I realized that I wanted to pursue myself.

2. Why should medical students consider the Sarnoff Fellowship apart from other programs?

The Sarnoff Fellowship provides many distinct benefits compared to other programs. First and foremost, the Fellowship permits recipients to choose their laboratory AFTER they receive the award with the support and guidance of an experienced scientist. This ensures a good match between the Fellow and their mentor. Second, the Fellowship offers ongoing support during the Fellowship year with guidance and a site visit by a distinguished Scientific Committee member. Finally, the Foundation ensures longitudinal support for the Fellow through the Alumni Committee with regular interaction with the entire Society of Fellows. This invaluable resource has been the source of many meaningful friendships, collaborations and sustained mentoring relationships.

3. What are your professional aspirations?

Since my Sarnoff Fellowship, I have completed my internal medicine residency, Chief residency and fellowships in cardiovascular disease, interventional cardiology, vascular medicine and endovascular intervention at the MGH and the Brigham in Boston. I realized during this training, that my passions related to patient-oriented pursuits: clinical research and education. Consequently, I have focused my faculty career in the care of patients with complex panvascular atherosclerosis, clinical research into device therapies for these patients, and graduate medical education. My research relates to developing and advancing novel interventional therapies via investigator initiated studies as well as large, randomized multi-center clinical trials. During my career, I aspire to bring a novel technology from late stage preclinical development to clinical application in patients via traditional academic and new approaches. I also hope to continue to

be a leading educator within interventional cardiology of trainees and clinicians both in the US and internationally.

4. What is your greatest professional accomplishment?

As a junior faculty member, I don't think that I've accomplished anything worthy of mention yet. However, I am proud that I have been able to find an academic niche despite my procedural specialty, something that I was told was essentially impossible. I am particularly proud of securing independent funding for investigator initiated clinical trials of peripheral arterial revascularization strategies utilizing high resolution intravascular imaging to better understand the mechanism of action of a novel angioplasty catheters designed expressly for vascular drug delivery. This work reflects the culmination of the lessons I learned in Prof. Edelman's lab as a Sarnoff Fellow and my many years of clinical training. Perhaps what makes me proudest is the success of my clinical trainees, who continue to share their own academic journeys with me.

5. What is your most memorable Sarnoff moment?

Over the years, there have been MANY memorable Sarnoff moments, most of which involved friendships and fellowship with former Sarnoff Fellows, Scientific Committee members, and applicants. The Annual Meetings in particular are full of great memories. However, my most memorable Sarnoff moment remains my 10 minute talk following my Fellowship year. I think that I was the first speaker to use PowerPoint slides at a Sarnoff Meeting, and I remember the "Ooh's and Aah's" when animated slides came on the screen. But more importantly, I remember how nervous I was before the talk, and how much confidence I gained when I was able to give reasonable answers to the questions posed by the audience of peers, colleagues and mentors. It was my first time at the podium in a scientific capacity, and it remains exhilarating to this day.

6. What are your hobbies?

My favorite hobby is spending time with my wife, Nisha, and my son, Samir. With the demands of work and life, I find the greatest peace being with them. I continue to be an ardent sports fan, and enjoy travel and good food. And, "volunteering" in academic service has become something of a hobby as well.