

DARREN L. JOHNSON, MD DOCTORAL

— RESEARCH ENDOWMENT

ABOUT THE ENDOWMENT: The Darren L. Johnson, MD Doctoral Research Endowment was established to foster the continued professional development of athletic training scholars with terminal degrees. Funding from this endowment will be used to support instruction and mentoring for new investigators or those who are re-entering the research field. The Fellow will work with an established investigator to learn new research techniques in order to execute an original study, utilizing these new methods, on a topic related to the medical, behavioral, educational and/or clinical aspects of athletic training.



ABOUT DR. JOHNSON: Dr. Johnson is an internationally respected scholar and surgeon committed to advancing surgical techniques and developing a better understanding of the secondary consequences of knee pathology and repair. He has long supported, funded and promoted research opportunities for students and residents.

After earning his MD from UCLA, Dr. Johnson completed his orthopedic residency at the University of Southern California. He went on to further his education with a fellowship in sports medicine and shoulder surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, under the direction of Freddie H. Fu, MD.

Dr. Johnson has served on the Board of Directors of the AAOS and was named a member of the prestigious Herodicus Society based on his many academic contributions to the field of sports medicine. His extensive volunteer service includes national committee appointment with the AOSSM, AOA, Southern Orthopaedic Association and Arthroscopy Association of North America. Dr. Johnson has published more than 90 peer reviewed manuscripts and 20 book chapters, in addition to presenting multiple talks on complex topics related to knee and shoulder injuries in the physically active.

Dr. Johnson currently serves as Professor & Chairman of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Director of Sports Medicine at the University of Kentucky. He is the Head Orthopedic Surgeon for the UK Wildcats and maintains a busy clinical practice, treating patients throughout the commonwealth and surrounding states.

RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS:

- 2025 Madison Swails, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 2024 Cecilia Kaufman, University of Connecticut - Korey Stringer Institute
- 2023 Dimitrios Athanasiadis, Oregon State University
- 2022 Not Awarded
- 2021 Aliza Nedimyer, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020 Danielle Torp, University of North Carolina - Charlotte
- 2019 Sarah Myers, University of Connecticut
- 2018 Lisa-Anne Cummins, Augusta University
- 2017 Samantha Scarneo, University of Connecticut
- 2016 Not Awarded
- 2015 Eunwook Chang, Oregon State University

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