Dr. Craig Della Valle invites 3rd year medical students to apply for a Clinical Research Fellowship in Joint Reconstruction at Rush University Medical Center. This annual fellowship is awarded to a rising fourth-year medical student who has demonstrated a keen interest in orthopaedics and is a competitive future candidate for a residency in orthopaedic surgery.

This is a wonderful opportunity for a highly-motivated individual to strengthen his or her application for the Orthopaedic Residency Match. The research fellow works directly under Dr. Della Valle. He or she will function as a research coordinator for any new or ongoing projects. This involves leading his or her own studies as well as functioning as a co-investigator on collaborative ventures with residents, fellows, and attendings here at Rush and at other sites.

Responsibilities and daily activities include: developing research hypotheses and performing literature reviews; composing research protocols; drafting and submitting IRB proposals; interacting with, recruiting, and examining patients in clinic; collecting, organizing, and analyzing clinical research data; preparing and submitting results for academic publication and presentation to peers. The position also provides the opportunity to be mentored in a clinical setting; to learn and hone clinical exam skills; to observe and partake in surgeries; and to attend weekly lectures and conferences with Rush orthopaedic residents and faculty.

This research position is unique in that the medical student interacts with a world-renowned joint surgeon on a daily basis. The nature of the position makes excellent organizational and communicational skills paramount. Applicants are selected based on research experience and medical school performance, as well as enthusiasm and interest. The chosen applicant typically begins the summer after third-year rotations are completed and works for one calendar year. The position is salaried.

Interested individuals should contact the current research fellow, Darren Plummer at 312-432-2468 or darren.plummer@rushortho.com