relative to the burden of this public health problem. To address this
discrepancy, the major professional trauma organizations joined
forces two years ago to form the Coalition for National Trauma
Research (CNTR). CNTR has been working with congress and the
DOD to advocate for enhanced funding for trauma research and a
coordinated approach to prioritization of project and to build research
infrastructure. To that end, CNTR investigators led by Dr. Bulger
put forth a proposal to develop a National Trauma Research Action
plan with the following aims:

Aim 1: Perform a gap analysis of military and civilian trauma research
to identify priorities across the continuum of care.

Aim 2: Define optimal metrics to assess long–term functional out-
comes in injured patients following hospital discharge.

Aim 3: Identify trauma research regulatory barriers, develop best
practices for investigators, and collaborate with federal entities to
define optimal endpoints for clinical trauma research.

This is a multidisciplinary, multicenter project which will engage
all the professional organizations that participate in trauma research
across the US. From the University of Washington, Dr. Bulger will
serve as the Principal Investigator and Dr. Nicole Gibran, Nancy
Auth Washington Research Foundation Endowed Chair for Restorative
Burn Surgery and Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care
Surgery, will serve as a Co–Investigator. Per Dr. Bulger, “This is an
exciting opportunity to bring the entire trauma community together
and stimulate the development of new therapeutic strategies across
the continuum of care.”
SeattleMet Magazine’s 2018 Top Doctors (cont.)

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Dr. Robert S. Sawin, Professor, Surgeon–in–Chief,
Seattle Children’s Hospital

Dr. John H. T. Waldhausen, Professor, Division Chief

Dr. Dennis S. Kao, Assistant Professor

Dr. Kari A. Keys, Associate Professor

Dr. Peter C. Neligan, Professor & Section Chief,
UWMC Plastic Surgery

Dr. Otway Louie, Associate Professor

Dr. Janelle Sousa, Assistant Professor

Dr. Nicholas B. Vedder, Professor & Chief

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What attracted you to pediatric surgery?

PJ: I always knew I wanted to be a surgeon and I love working with children. Each age group represents its own unique challenges in terms of how you relate to the patient and their families, and I really enjoy that aspect of my work. You also get to see very unique diagnoses in pediatric surgery. It is very often that we come across something that we have never seen before, and that is its own type of challenge. What we do in the OR is very broad and technically precise. We have to be able to operate in the abdomen, chest, and all over the body. From 500 gram babies to 150 kg teenagers. And of course, children are so brave and resilient—it’s inspiring to be part of that.

What is an interesting fact about yourself that many people don’t know?

PJ: I’m a huge fan of the band Radiohead. Last year as a birthday present to myself I actually flew to Kansas City post call to see them and came back to do cases in the OR the next day. My wife, Sara, (Dr. Sara Javid, Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery) and I have also seen U2, Pearl Jam, Counting Crows and Toad the Wet Sprocket in concert recently.

What do you enjoy doing during your leisure time?

PJ: I try to spend as much time as possible with my family. This is not always easy in a household with two academic surgeons! I do lots of running and in the winter I try to ski with my kids. Crystal Mountain is our current favorite place to go—it has good terrain and isn’t too crowded. We got a puppy this past spring, so I spend as much time as I can walking and playing with Trixie and my kids. s you can see from looking around my office, I also love football. I’m a big New England Patriots fan (sorry…) and have been following them since I did residency in Boston. Actually,

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