



# Nailing the Fellowship Interview

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# Overview

- Picking the right Surgical Fellowship Specialty
- Identifying the right programs.
- Setting up for the Interview
- The Interview
- Follow up




# Pick the Right Surgical Fellowship

- Passion about the subject material
- Understanding the workflow
  - Control of schedule
  - Hours
  - Family Buy-in.
- Choose for the right reason?



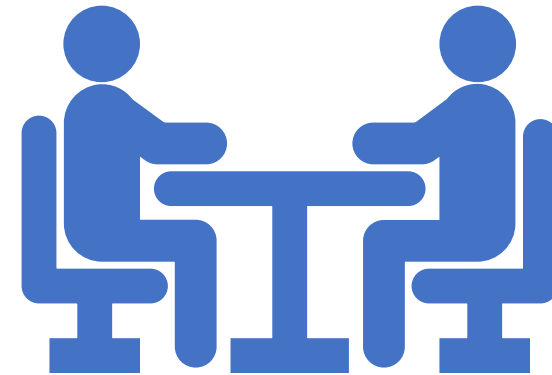
## Identifying the Right Programs

- Prestige Personalities
  - Clinical vs Research
  - Geography
    - More likely to end up near your fellowship.
  - Support Network
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# Preparing for the Interview

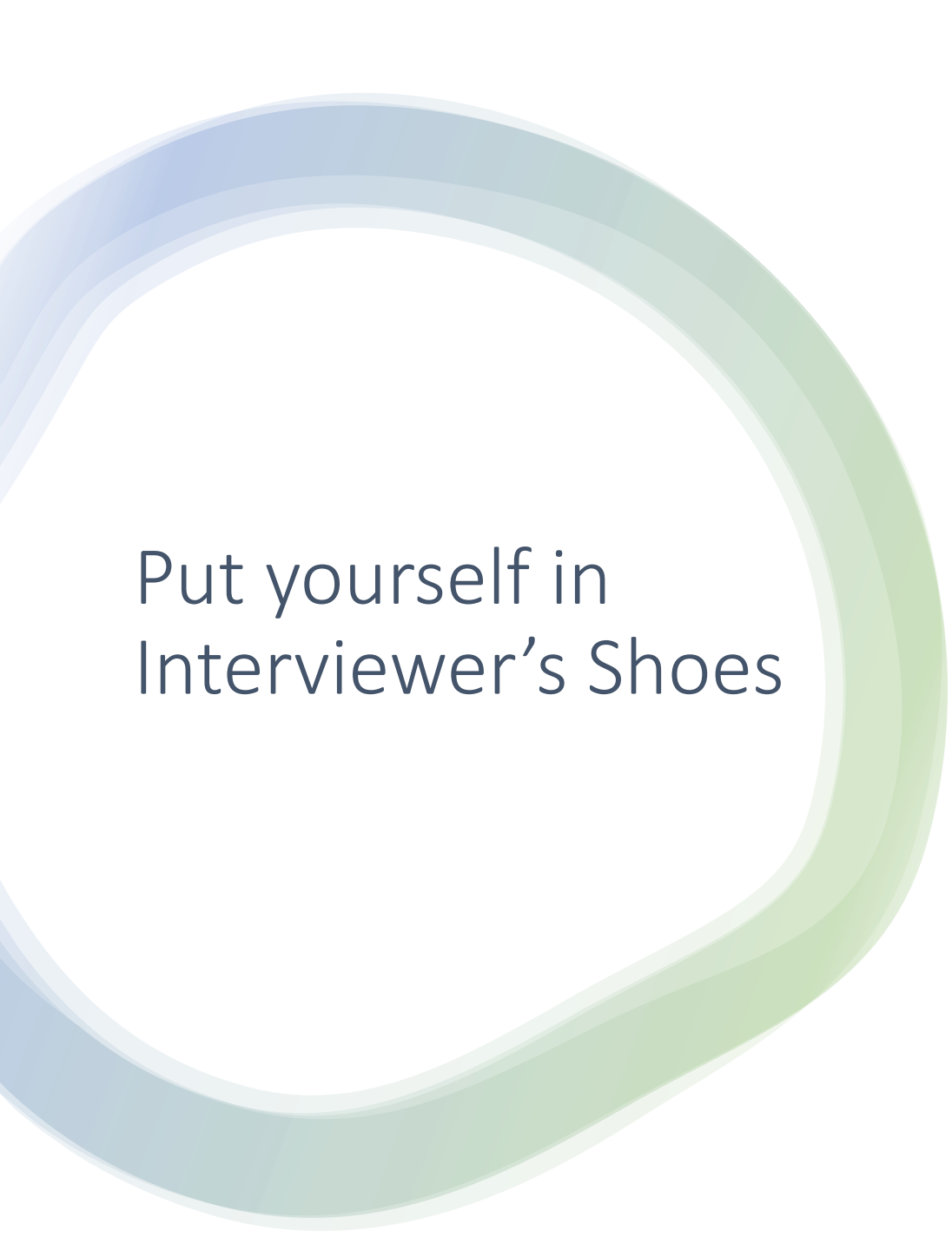
## Differences between Residency and Fellowship Interviews

- Obviously more narrowed and focused.
- Small World
- Much more likely to be future colleagues.
- Interviewer are probably friends with other Interviewers around the country.



# Preparing for the Interview

- Zoom vs In-person
- Look up the faculty
- Guess which questions you might be asked.
  - Toughest rotation
  - Dealing with bad outcomes
  - Handling bad behavior of others.
  - Discuss your research
    - Explain Previous Publications
  - Write these questions down.
- Rehearsing your answers to common interview questions.
- Get a good night sleep

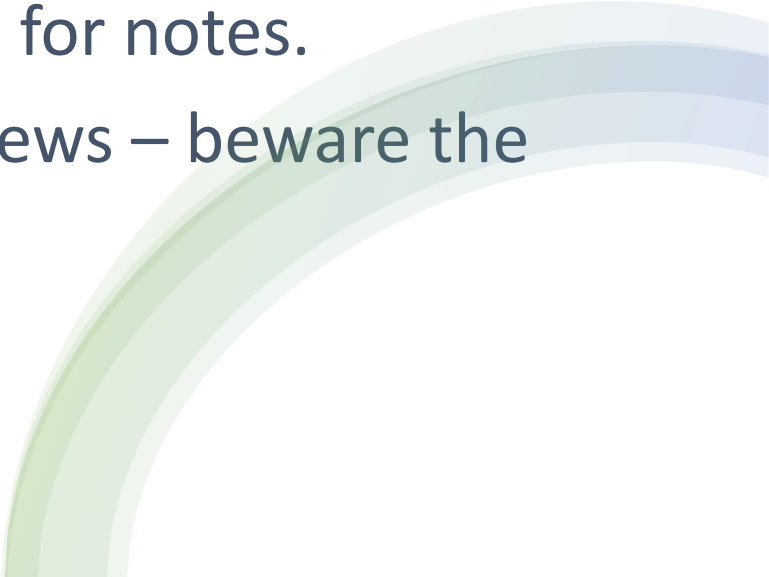


Put yourself in  
Interviewer's Shoes

- Program Director Viewpoint
- Mid-level Attending Viewpoint
- Future Co-Fellows
- Physician Assistants



# The Interview


- Balance Confidence against Arrogance
  - Show enthusiasm for the field.
  - Dress professionally
  - Pay attention to your own Zoom background
  - Center your zoom to the camera.
  - Leave desktop space for notes.
  - For in-person interviews – beware the “social” gatherings.
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## Follow-up with Interviewers

- More important than the residency interview follow-up.
- Reminds them of your existence.
- Programs like to be liked.
- Do not fib.



## Take Notes Immediately After Interviews

- Questions you did not answer well
- Follow with Interviewers about specific points.
- Pros and Cons.

- Coming out of Stanford, you are well-trained.
- We have a history of graduates doing well around the country.
- You have earned right to be honest with yourself.

Know that you are strong candidates

