Sewsletter

Spring/Summer Issue 2020

Chair 's Message...



First and foremost, I want to thank everyone for their hard work, patience and adaptability during the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been a lot of changes related to the pandemic including education sessions, committee meetings, our annual research day and graduation ceremony. There have been reductions in clinical and surgical volumes, cancellation/postponement of academic meetings and a plethora of virtual meetings. Despite these changes and challenges, our faculty, residents, fellows and administrative staff have shown resilience in the face of adversity.

As we slowly and cautiously restart our clinical and surgical volumes, everyone realizes there is a "new normal" that we are still trying to figure out. I was pleased that many in our department

stepped up to help create guidelines/recommendations, grant submissions and scholarly research to help our specialty grapple with many issues related to the pandemic.

A warm welcome to our new residents and fellows – you are embarking on an exciting journey! Congratulations to our graduating residents and fellows. I hope you "felt the love" at our virtual Graduation Ceremony on June 12, 2020 and our appreciation for everything you have done for our department. We wish you every success in your future endeavors and hope you will maintain a strong connection with our department. A big congratulations as well to all of the award winners detailed in this newsletter.

There are important changes happening in 2020-21 for undergraduate and postgraduate medical education across Canada. At the University of Toronto, the clinical clerks will be reintegrated back into clinical settings as of July 6, 2020. However, electives for medical students in all Canadian faculties of medicine have been cancelled for 2020-21 and the elective period in our own institution will be relatively short (November 9, 2020 to February 28, 2021). For PGME, the U of T is allowing residents in a Canadian training program (with a few exceptions) to do electives but these must be registered with the electives office and approved by our Program Director, Dr. Campisi. Electives for international students have been restricted due to travel limitations.

Chair's Message Continued...

In the coming academic year, there will be a number of important reviews of our education programs and department. The University of Toronto undergraduate education review, which occurs every 8 years, was scheduled to take place this spring but has been postponed to the fall of 2020 and will be done virtually. Similarly, the Royal College does an external review of all University training programs every 6+ years. They were slated to come to Toronto in November 2020 but this is being reorganized into a virtual review. Every 5 years, the University conducts an external review of all departments and we are slated for 2021. Stay tuned as we get details. These reviews are important to help us look at our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities. We usually don't have them all happening in one academic year but I would like to ask for your patience, tolerance and help if asked to participate in any or all of these reviews.

There is so much to be proud of in our department, it is hard to know where to start. I hope some of the following pages will inspire you and bring a smile to your face. Although many of us have significantly reduced clinical and surgical volumes over the last 3 or more months, this does not count as "down time". I really hope you will consider taking some time over the summer to "recharge your batteries", get away and take some well-earned holiday time. I very much appreciate your support, collegiality and joie de vivre.

Enjoy the summer!

San



Professor Glen Bandiera sporting OHNS team gear!

Xewsletter

Spring/Summer 2020

Our newsletter is published twice annually in June and December.

Please send any items you would like included in subsequent issues to:

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Events & Administrative Coordinator

Safia Amin events.ohns@utoronto.ca

The administrative staff continue to work from home during the COVID-19 pandemic

Xeep in touch!

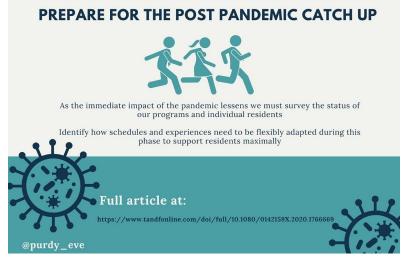
ohns.chairsassistant@utoronto.ca



Dr. Paolo Campisi has co-authored an article on residency training during COVID-19, titled "Training Disrupted: Practical tips for supporting competency-based medical education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The infographics here are a summary of the publication.





Infographic designed by Eve Purdy



Departmental Awards

This year our awards were presented at a virtual celebration on Friday June 12, 2020.

Recipients for the 2019-20 academic year are:

Undergraduate Awards

Hugh Barber Scholarship in Otolaryngology Award... *Justine Philteos*

Resident Awards

Freda Noyek Otolaryngology Merit Award....Jennifer Siu

Shiley E. O. Pelausa Awards....Daniel Lee & Shireen Samargandy

Dr. Ian Witterick Excellence in Mentorship Award...Justin Cottrell

Judy Chauvin Otolaryngology Resident Award....Vincent Wu

Chapnik, Freeman & Friedberg Clinician Scientist Program Award....Justin Cottrell

Fellow Awards

Kris Conrad Merit Award in Facial Plastic Surgery....Chew Lip Ng

Teaching Awards

Alma Smitheringale Undergraduate Teaching Awards....Dale Brown, John de Almeida, Jon Irish & Jun Lin

Resident Teacher of the Year Awards....Joel Davies & Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski

Fellow Teacher of the Year Award....Matthew Crowson

Faculty Teacher of the Year Award....Danny Enepekides

Resident Advocate Award....Ian Witterick

Research Awards

Raymond H.W. Ng Graduate Award....Justin Cottrell

Raymond H.W. Ng PhD Award....Matsya Thulasiram & Christopher Noel

Joynal 2)

Harry Barberian Scholarship Recipients

The Harry Barberian Research Fund is supported by the Harry Barberian Memorial Dinner, held in May annually to honour the memory of Mr. Harry Barberian, founder of Barberian's Steak House and iconic Toronto personage. This event is held through the generosity of the Barberian Family. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the dinner this year was cancelled. The purpose of the fund is to support the research activities of residents, fellows, graduate students and faculty in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, University of Toronto.

2020 Recipients are:

John de Almeida (David Goldstein, Eric Monteiro, Antoine Eskander)

A Feasibility Trial of Lymphatic Mapping with SPECT-CT for Evaluating Contralateral Disease in Lateralized Oropharynx Cancer (UHN, Sinai, Sunnybrook)

Guodong Fu (Ian Witterick, Christina MacMillan, Jeremy Freeman, Allan Vescan, Eric Monteiro) *Molecular Testing for Malignancy in Cytologically Indeterminate Thyroid Nodules Using Multiplexed and Ultrasensitive Digital PCR and qPCR Platform (Sinai)*

Robert Harrison

Hearing Loss Caused by Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Infection: Investigation of the Final Stages of Pathogenesis (SickKids)

Chantal Li, Justin Cottrell (Paolo Campisi)

Tracheostomy Emergencies Simulation Course: Testing the Effect of Integrated Instruction on Knowledge Acquisition and Retention Among Emergency Medicine Physicians Undergoing Complex Simulations (SickKids)

Thomas Looi, Ian Witterick, Yvonne Chan, Allan Vescan, Paolo Campisi, Eric Monteiro

Development of Training Model for Managing Internal Carotid Artery Hemorrhage and Cerebrospinal Fluid Leaks During Sinus Surgery (SickKids, Sinai, Trillium)

Emilia Luca (Alain Dabdoub)

Human Inner Ear Sensory Organs: Regenerative Response at Single Cell Resolution (Sunnybrook)

Sebastian Ranguis (Nik Wolter, Evan Propst, Jonathan Wasserman, George Yousef)

RNA-Based Diagnostics for Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Treatment Stratification (SickKids)

Edward Sykes (Joseph Chen, Vincent Lin, Trung Le)

Liquefaction: A Proof-of-Concept Adjuvant Strategy for Cholesteatoma Eradication (Sunnybrook)

Matsya Ruppari Thulasiram (Alain Dabdoub)

Prevention of Norrie Disease-Associated Hearing Loss Using Gene Therapy (Sunnybrook)

Vincent Wu (John Lee)

Levels of Nasal Nitric Oxide and Inducible Nitric Oxide Synthase Expression in Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyposis (St. Mike's)

Priyanka Prince Yogarajah (Andrew Dimitrijevic)

Brain Activity During Auditory Working Memory in Cochlear Implant Users (Sunnybrook)

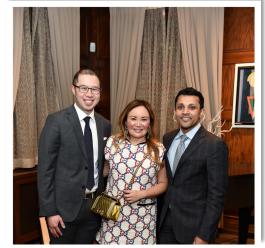
Hedyeh Ziai (Doug Chepeha, Bryan Coburn, Carissa Thomas)

Inflammation and Microbiome in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (UHN)

Promotion Celebration

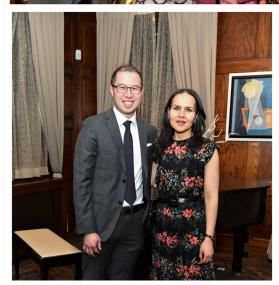
A celebration was held on January 30, 2020 at the Faculty Club

for our faculty who were promoted to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2019.



John Lee, Yvonne Chan, & John de Almeida















Celebrating our Faculty

Recipients of the 2018-19 MD Program Teaching Excellence Award

This award recognizes faculty in the MD Program that have attained Teaching Evaluation Scores in the top 10% in one or more of the teaching activities to



Dale Brown

which they have contributed.



John de Almeida



Tony Eskander



Everton Gooden



Jonathan Irish



Jun Lin



John Rutka



Lorne Segall

() ongraledations

Faculty Spotlight

John de Almeida & Tony Eskander





Were the recipients of an Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (IHPME) Eugenie Stuart Best Mentor Award–Best Instructor for their Excellence in Teaching, Excellence in Course/Program Development & Coordination, Excellence in MSc/PhD Thesis Supervision, and Outstanding Faculty/Preceptor/Tutor

Danny Enepekides & Tony Eskander et al.



Were the recipients of a large 2019-20 Sunnybrook AFP Innovation Fund for their research entitled "Symptom Burden as a Predictor of Emergency Room Visits and Unplanned Hospitalizations in Patients with Head and Neck Cancer".



Tony Eskander

For the trifecta...
a partnership bearry Fox Research In-

Is a recipient of a 2020 Terry Fox New Investigator Award (a partnership between the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Terry Fox Research Institute) for his project entitled: "An evaluation of patterns of care, survival and healthcare costs in patients with head and neck cancer"



Trung Le

Was recently chosen as the recipient of the Triological Society Career Development Award for his project "Magnetic Targeting Delivery of Neurotrophic Gene Therapy for the Treatment of Hearing Loss". This award provides support to the research career development of otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons. Dr. Le is the first person from a Canadian University to receive this highly competitive award.

Congratulations

Jun Lin and Anthony Nichols



Drs. Jun Lin and Anthony Nichols were selected as the recipients of the 2020-21 ALA/ALVRE Research Grant of the American Laryngological Association for their research project "Comparison of Transcriptomic Changes in Idiopathic Subglottic Stenosis and Normal Respiratory Mucosa Using High Throughput RNA Sequencing".



Team SickKids

Won the Academic Bowl at the Annual Society for Ear Nose and Throat Advances in Children (SENTAC) Conference in San Diego.

L to R: Conference Chair Deepak Mehta, Patricia Purcell, Vicky Papaioannou and Sebastian Ranguis



In Memorium



Albert William Peter Van Nostrand (1933-2020)

After a brief illness, Peter passed away peacefully at Holly Park, his home in Mulmur, Ontario on January 29, 2020.



Promotion



Andrew Dimitrijevic
Was successful in his promotion to
Associate Professor
effective July 1, 2020.

Continuing Academic Review



Tony Eskander and Nik Wolter

All new full-time clinical faculty appointments to the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery are probationary for three to five years. Drs. Eskander and Wolter were both successful in achieving continued appointment status following their reviews by the Department Appointments

Committee



Undergraduate Education

Allan Vescan MD, MSc, FRCSC

Director of UME

A message from Patricia Houston, Vice Dean, MD Program June 3, 2020

Thank you for your patience and support as we continue to understand and recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our clinical education environments. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on our progress towards reintegration of clinical clerks into placements, while recognizing the importance of balancing the needs of patients and our community during this time.

We previously paused clinical placements until Monday, July 6, 2020. With this date fast approaching, we have been working with hospital education leaders through the Toronto Academic Health Science Network (TAHSN) to plan for reintegrating learners into hospital activities while ensuring the safety of staff, learners, and patients. Recently, we developed the *Hospital-Based Academic Recovery Strategy & Guidelines* to support harmonization, articulate guidance in preparing for and beginning to recover hospital-based academic activities and provide tools to support preparedness efforts.

We would like to ensure that all departments are aware of our planning efforts and work collaboratively to prepare for learner reintegration. We would like to take this opportunity and offer our apologies for not sending this communication out earlier, but as you can appreciate, this has been a complex and involved process. With your support, we hope to commence Clerkship reintegration as a system, beginning Monday, July 6, 2020, where possible.

We are currently planning for Phase 1. During this phase, the MD Program will prioritize reintegrating our returning year 3 Clinical Clerks who require placements to complete their academic program and graduate on time to transition to post-graduate education in July 2021. Please share this communication as broadly as possible with your departmental membership.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself. Thank you for your help, support and continued partnership during this uncertain time.

Stay well,

Patricia

Patricia Houston, MD, MEd, FRCPC Vice Dean, MD Program Professor, Department of Anesthesia Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto Tel: 416-978-4934 (office) E-mail: patricia.houston@utoronto.ca



Postgraduate Education

Paolo Campisi MSc, MD, FRCSC

Vice Chair of Education and Program Director

We had a successful CaRMS interview day on January 31, 2020. Below are the incoming PGY1 residents as of July 1, 2020. Thank you so much to all of our faculty, residents, and fellows who generously gave their time to mentor medical students throughout the year. A special thank you to all of the individuals who helped on the CaRMS Selection Committee (Drs. Ian Witterick, Vincent Lin, Yvonne Chan, John de Almeida, Jun Lin, Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski, Christopher Noel, Florence Mok, Justin Cottrell, Hedyeh Ziai, Amr Hamour, Grace Yi, John Lee, Neil Arnstead and Vincent Wu), to the residents that helped with organizing the social event (Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski and Sunita Rai), our resident ushers (Edward Sykes, Fahad Aldhahri and Brian Shin) and, of course, Andrea, Audrea, Sonia and Safia for keeping us all organized. We will also be welcoming a 6th PGY1 resident to the department, Ahmed Saleem, an international medical graduate (IMG) from Saudi Arabia.





Incoming PGY1 Residents



Alexander Gabinet-Equihua Queen's

University



Garret Horton
Queen's
University



Marc Levin

McMaster

University



Justine Philteos
University
of Toronto



Ahmed Saleem

King Saud

University



Lily WangUniversity
of Toronto



New Fellows

Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery



Islam Alzayadneh University of Jordan



Rodrigo Fernández Pellón García **National Autonomous** University of Mexico



Giriraj Sharma University of California

Head and Neck Surgical Oncology



Donovan Eu Academy of Medicine Singapore



Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski University of Toronto



Susannah Orzell State University of New York Upstate Medical University



Axel Sahovaler Western University

Laryngology



Fatemeh Hassan Nia Iran University of **Medical Sciences**

Otology - Skull Base Surgery



University Hospital

Paediatric Otolaryngology



Anne-Sophie PrevostUniversity of
Sherbrooke



Tal HonigmanIsrael Institute of
Technology

Rhinology, Skull Base and Head & Neck Oncology



Eran GliksonTel Aviv University

Medical and Surgical Otology/Neurotology



Sasan Dabiri Tehran University of Medical Sciences



Gabriela Vergara Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

University Health Network Research



Tommaso Gualtieri University of Brescia

Welcome to the department!

Christopher Noel, PGY3



Was awarded a Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) 2019-20 Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship - Doctoral Research Award.

AND

Was awarded the 2020 Robert Sheppard Award for Health Equity and Social Justice.

2020-21 Chief Resident



Congratulations Florence! Your strong leadership and advocacy skills have been recognized by your peers. We look forward to working with you in your new role as Chief Resident.

We would also like to acknowledge and sincerely thank Dr. Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski for his service as 2019-2020 Chief Resident. Dr. Manojlovic Kolarski diligently and effectively served the residents and Department over the past year. Thank you Mirko for your hard work and numerous contributions!

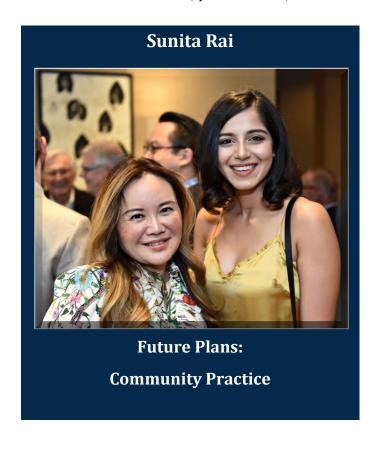


Virtual Graduation Ceremony ~ June 12, 2020

Congratulations to our PGY5 residents



L to R: Sunita Rai, Joel Davies, Frédérick Laliberté, Josie Xu, Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski









Future Plans: Rhinology Fellowship in Melbourne, Australia

Josie Xu



Future Plans: Sleep Surgery Fellowship at University of Southern California

Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski



Future Plans: Head and Neck Fellowship in Toronto Our PGY4 residents prepared a roast of the PGY5 residents...

Click Here to watch the video

Our PGY5 residents prepared a video of their 5 year journey though Otolaryngology-HNS...

Click Here to watch the video

Congratulations to our Fellows

Head & Neck Surgical Oncology

Ashok Jethwa



Future Plans:

Attending Surgeon, University of Minnesota, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and Minneapolis Veterans Affairs.

Wael Hasan



Future Plans:

Pursue a career in academic and clinical head & neck oncology and reconstructive surgery.

Konrado Massing Deutsch



Future Plans:

Return to Brazil to eat barbeque and ride old motorcycles. Also to work as an Otolaryngologist Head and Neck Surgeon

Andrew Sewell



Future Plans:

Do another fellowship? Get a job at some point.

Hospital for Sick Children Research

Colin Leonard



Future Plans:

Returning to clinical practice.

Rhinology, Skull Base and Head & Neck Oncology

Vikram Padhye



Future Plans:

Returning to Adelaide to start a faculty position with the University of Adelaide

Laryngology

Paul Douglas-Jones



Future Plans: Still figuring this out!

Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Chew Lip Ng



Future Plans:

Consultant ENT, Facial Plastic Surgeon in Singapore. Associate Program Director, ENT Residency, National University Health System.

Sean Hashemi



Future Plans:
Practice in California.

Blake Raggio

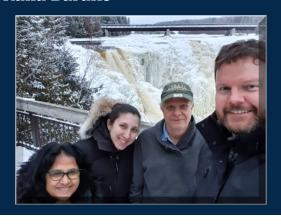


Future Plans:

Dallas, Texas: Private Practice Head and Neck Surgery | Facial Plastic Surgery.

Medical and Surgical Otology/Neurotology

Rana Barake



Future Plans:

Working at the Ear Institute in Lebanon (Started in May 2020).

Michael Bergin



Future Plans:

Consultant Otologist, Christchurch Hospital, New Zealand

Fatemeh Hassan Nia



Future Plans:

Clinical Fellowship in Laryngology at St. Michael's Hospital.

Priyanka Misale



Future Plans:

Practice Neurotology & Otology in Mumbai, India.

Otology, Skull Base Surgery

Matthew Crowson



Future Plans:

Faculty at Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary/Harvard Department of Otolaryngology

Paediatric Otolaryngology

Patricia Purcell



Future Plans:

I have accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Pediatric Otolaryngology at the University of Michigan

Sebastian Ranguis



Future Plans:

A vacation with my family, then to continue my journey in Pediatric Otolaryngology at the Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney



Our social media accounts continue to gain traction.

Thank you Safia!

Hedyeh Ziai, PGY2

#WhyOHNS



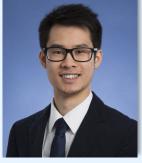
The privilege to operate on the head and neck with its intricate anatomy is both exciting and unparalleled, particularly when considering how important the form and function are to the basic human experience. Take for instance, the vocal cords and ears in facilitating communication, the tongue, in facilitating speech and deglutition, and the structures of the face as the patient's presentation to society. Otolaryngologists encounter patients who may be hearing impaired or aphonic, or who have been left with debilitating impairments secondary to head and neck malignancies.

The immense privilege of dealing with these challenging problems and the role and responsibility in transitioning these patients back to society is why I chose this specialty. I feel very fortunate to have found a specialty that I am so passionate about and which genuinely makes me want to be better, every day.

Follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u> for more of these insights

Terence Fu, PGY3

#WhyOHNS



OHNS is a truly unique field and I can imagine no better place than Toronto to train to become a proficient otolaryngologists. The main reasons I chose this field were the people I encountered: my teachers and mentors who humble me every day with skills, experience, and exceptional patient care; my colleagues who continually teach me and inspire me to become a better physician; above all, the diverse patient population who I'm privileged to care for and the range of diseases with which they present. OHNS offers countless opportunities to improve the lives of

our patients - whether we are treating infants or adults, benign or malignant disease, performing minor procedures or major head and neck surgery, whether in the operating room or clinic.

Continuing Professional Development

Yvonne Chan MD, FRCSC, MSc, HBSc

Director of CPD

Rhinology Update 2020 February 21, 2020 ~ Mount Sinai Auditorium



18th **Annual Otolaryngology-HNS Update** February 22, 2020 ~ The SickKids Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning



Annual Alumni Dinner

February 21, 2020 ~ Hart House's Gallery Grill

This year we celebrated the class of 1994. A special thank you to Drs. Lisa Elden and Andres Gantous for joining us, as well as faculty and friends.













Bob's Garden Railways...



Dear RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS, or not as the case might be!

I know that **some** of you will be interested in the latest version of Bob's garden railway. So here it is

https://youtu.be/uYcQK4_eKPE

Polite feedback welcome

Cheers

Bob

Visiting Professors

January 2020

 10^{th}

Dr. Bruce Ashford, University of Wollongong



17th
Dr. Soham Roy, *University of Texas*



February 2020

 21^{st}

Dr. Arif Janjua, *University of British Columbia*Silverman Lecture



 28^{th}

Dr. Yvonne Ying, *University of Ottawa Joseph K.H. Wong/Smile China Lecture*



March 2020

6th

Dr. Louise Davies, *Dartmouth College (NH, USA) Quality and Safety Lecture*



Grand Rounds

will resume in September 2020

March 13, 2020 ~ Tomlinson Lecture

Dr. Trung Le Assistant Professor, Dept of Otolaryngology-HNS Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

"Therapeutic Delivery to the Inner Ear"



April 2020

17th

Dr. Andrew Shuman, University of Michigan Health System

"Navigating the Ethics of COVID-19 in Otolaryngology"



May 1, 2020 ~ Women in Otolaryngology



We are so thankful to all of the hardworking women who shape, lead and contribute to our specialty every single day. The department celebrates you and your many accomplishments!





Click Here to check out the fun video our surgeons put together to celebrate

May 15, 2020 ~ Dolman Lecture

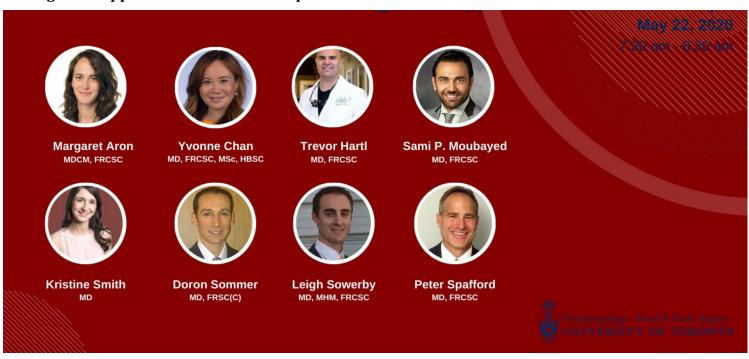


Dr. Sharon CushingAssociate Professor, Dept of Otolaryngology-HNS
Hospital for Sick Children

"Hearing and Balance: What Cochlear Implants Have Taught Us About the Developing Vestibular System"

May 22, 2020 ~ COVID-19 and Otolaryngology-HNS

"Otolaryngology Office/Clinic Preparedness in the COVID-19 Era: A Pragmatic Approach with Practical Tips"

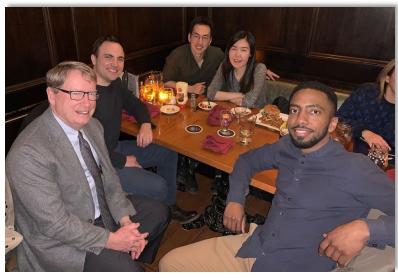




February 12, 2020 ~ Chief's Cup

Chief's Cup OHNS Trivia Night.

Congratulations to Team "Jack-of-all-Flaps".





Honourable mention to Teams:

"What Does the Fox Say", "Gucci Gang", "Chips with Tzatiki Dip" and "Witterick's Warriors"









Alumni News

Newest Alumni of the Department

Residents

Joel Davies Frédérick Laliberté Mirko Manojlovic Kolarski Sunita Rai Josie Xu

Fellows

Rana Barake
Michael Bergin
Paul Douglas-Jones
Matthew Crowson
Wael Hasan
Fatemeh Hassan Nia
Sean Hashemi
Ashok Jethwa
Colin Leonard

Konrado Massing Deutsch Priyanka Misale Chew Lip Ng Vikram Padhye Patricia Purcell Blake Raggio Sebastian Ranguis Andrew Sewell

Nidal Muhanna



Has been appointed the new Chief and Chair of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Centre!



John Yoo Has been appointed Dean of the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western

Dentistry, Western University as of May 1, 2020!

International Outreach

Face the Future Foundation ~ Dr. Peter Adamson

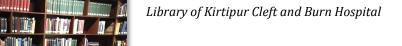
January 17-25, 2020 mission to Nepal

The first major Face The Future foundation mission to the Kirtipur Hospital in Kathmandu, Nepal has been an unqualified success. The reasons for this include the following:

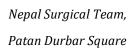
Pre-mission arrangements through the leadership of Dr. Jeremy Warner were complete, and very much assisted In having a seamless mission with no major issues. Dr. Warner also created a team of individuals who bonded exceptionally well. Every member of the mission team has confirmed their intention to return for the next mission.

There is a tremendous need at the Kirtipur Hospital, indeed, all of Nepal, for the highly qualified surgical and paramedical experts that our Face The Future surgical team has provided. Their burden of care is extremely high, especially with burn patients, but also with complex facial pathology and trauma, as well as complex hand and upper extremity trauma. On this mission we made significant contributions to building capacity in the realms of complex clinical care, hands-on teaching in the operating room, the introduction of high-level knowledge and systematic approaches to managing complex care of patients in the intensive care unit and ward, and advances in the diagnosis and treatment of hand deformities and injuries.

Very warm and gratifying relationships were established between our team members and their host peers, as well as between the leadership of both the Foundation and Hospital teams. All parties have enthusiastically committed to another mission next year, indeed, as soon as possible. This will enhance sustainability.



7 bed burn ICU at Kirtipur Cleft and Burn Hospital



Face the Future Foundation ~ Dr. Peter Adamson

February 9-15, 2020 mission to Rwanda

A team of 21 surgeons, anaesthesiologists, radiation oncologist, nurses and a videographer participated with their Rwandan counterparts in treating patients with highly complex head and neck surgical diseases. Each specialty also actively taught and transferred medical knowledge in the operating theatre, ICU, wards, and oncology centre. The mission was carried out at the Rwanda Military Hospital, a public hospital, and the Rwanda Cancer Centre, both in Kanombe, Kigali, Rwanda.

A total of 68 patients were seen and 36 were selected for surgery. A further 21 patients were assessed for oncologic irradiation treatment for head and neck cancer, for a total of 89 patient consultations. The non-surgical patients were referred for local care, radiation oncology or other disposition as deemed appropriate.

The 36 patients operated upon had a total of 137 surgical procedures. Some of the major conditions treated included massive benign and malignant boney and soft tissue facial tumors, traumatic burns and scars, congenital nose, lip, and ear deformities, and facially deforming medical conditions.

Of the 36 patients operated upon, the majority were under the age of 30, 6 being children. Twelve had ablation of major facial tumours which required micro-vascular reconstruction with donor free flaps of bone and soft tissue from the leg and forearm. Other major flap reconstructions, as well as finesse reconstructions of lip, nose, ear, and burn and traumatic deformities were carried out. Many of these procedures were urgent or of a life-saving nature. Virtually all were of a major life-changing nature.



Dr. Ife Sofola Mission Director



Dr. Ralf Woelki Anesthesiologist from Germany

Dr. Holge Gassner Facial Plastic Surgeon from Germany

Ear Camp ~ Dr. Ambrose Lee

January 2020. 3.5 days of ear camp at Chea Chumneas Hospital in Phnom Penh Cambodia. I was the only surgeon operating and did over 25 tympanoplasties and two modified radical mastoidectomies all under local or iv sedation.

Afterwards I went to Bangkok and celebrated Chinese New Year which was amazing.

Looking back I was very grateful to have done it because a few weeks afterwards the avalanche of COVID fell upon us.





Have a great Summer!

Stay Safe & Stay Well.



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