



Newsletter

Fall/Winter Issue 2012

Chair's Message...

It is with great pleasure that I bring to you this first newsletter during my term as Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at the University of Toronto. I want to sincerely thank Dr. Patrick Gullane for his 10 years of outstanding service to our Department. We held a celebration in honour of Dr. Gullane's significant contributions on July 20, 2012 at the Atlantis Pavilion, Ontario Place. There were over 160 attendees including friends, family, faculty, the Dean and international colleagues of Dr. Gullane. I also want to thank Ms. Zoila Huezo who stepped down as the Departmental Administrative Assistant after 22 years of service. We welcome Mrs. Sonia Costantino as the new Departmental Administrative Assistant and a special thank you to Sonia for putting this newsletter together.



Dr. Jeremy Freeman stepped down as Otolaryngologist-in-Chief at Mt. Sinai Hospital on June 30, 2012 and I took over from him. Dr. Freeman has done an outstanding job in advancing the academic mission of Mt. Sinai Hospital. He has been a great supporter of the Department in every sphere. Ms. Krista Riko, Director of Audiology retired on August 30, 2012 after almost 30 years of service to Mt. Sinai Hospital and the University. Her willingness to help, ready smile and significant expertise will be very much missed. In honour of her significant contributions, one of our Grand Rounds each year will be titled the "Krista Riko Lecture" and devoted to a topic related to Audiology. Dr. Gullane has stepped down as Otolaryngologist-in-Chief at the University Health Network on October 30, 2012 after 23 years in this position. Just as he did with the Chair position, Dr. Gullane was an outstanding advocate and promoter of Head and Neck Oncology. He significantly advanced the goals and mission of UHN over his tenure and oversaw significant change and amalgamations. Congratulations to Dr. Ralph Gilbert, who after an international search has taken over for Dr. Gullane as Otolaryngologist-in-Chief at UHN. Dr. Gilbert has an international reputation for excellence in head and neck oncology and microvascular reconstruction.

Chair's Message continued...

Our Annual Report will detail the significant peer-reviewed activities of our faculty. The rest of this newsletter will try to give you updates of important happenings in our department over the last 5 months. We would appreciate any comments or questions that you may have after reading this report. My sincere thanks to all of our residents, fellows and faculty for their hard work and dedication to the mission of our department.

My very best wishes to each and every one of you. Have a wonderful holiday and please accept my best wishes for a happy, safe and productive New Year.



*Follow us on Twitter ~
@OHNSUofT*

Reminder:

**Grand Rounds will NOT be held on
December 28, 2012 & January 4, 2013**

Promotions

Dr. Joseph Chen to Full Professor



Appointments

Dr. Alain Dabdoub

Newsletter

Fall/Winter Issue 2012

Our newsletter is published biannual in June and December.

Please send us any items you would like included in subsequent issues to sonia.costantino@utoronto.ca

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*The University office will be **closed** for the Holidays for the period December 24, 2012 to January 4, 2013 inclusive.*

We will reopen on Monday January 7, 2013 @ 8.30am

Keep in touch !

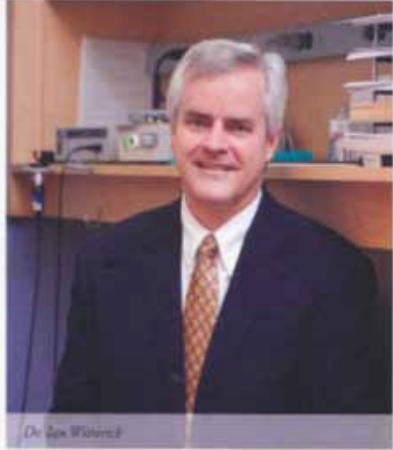
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Chief and Chairman! “The appointment was made in recognition of Dr. Witterick’s outstanding leadership skills and ability to integrate the clinical, education and research mandates of Mount Sinai Hospital”.

Sinai Staff Spotlight

New Chief for Department of Otolaryngology

While Dr. Ian Witterick has been a seasoned staff member at Mount Sinai for close to 20 years, the illustrious physician and researcher now has a new role. Dr. Witterick has been appointed Chief of Mount Sinai Hospital’s Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery for a five-year term. At the same time, he also assumes the Chair of the University of Toronto, Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery. The appointment was made in recognition of Dr. Witterick’s outstanding leadership skills and ability to integrate the clinical, education and research mandates of Mount Sinai.



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN JAH FOR SINAI



Front Page News!

Dr. John Lee along with neurosurgeon Dr. Michael Cusimano were featured in the Toronto Star on October 27, 2012.

Dr. Lee has used the new 3D scope at St. Michael’s Hospital during a recent neurosurgical procedure to remove a large tumour that was pressing on the pituitary gland of a 75-year-old man.



It is official...He’s skilled!

Another example of Dr. Gullane’s significant impact outside of the Department. This is the “Medicine Street” banner used by U of T’s Bounless Campaign.

Postgraduate Education

Paolo Campisi
MSc, MD, FRCSC, FAAP

I am delighted to submit my first Newsletter report as **Postgraduate Director** and to sincerely thank Dr. Witterick, the Faculty, Audrea, Sandra, Sonia and especially the residents for their incredible support during this transition period. I look forward to the many opportunities to work with the Department to further develop our postgraduate education program.

This would not be possible without the great team that has come together to serve on the **Residency Program Committee:**

Michael Sklar, PGY1

Ralph Gilbert, UHN-Toronto General Hospital

Sarah Hugh, PGY2

Jeremy Freeman, Mt. Sinai Hospital

Vinay Fernandes, PGY3

Rick Fox, St. Joseph's Health Centre

Tulika Shinghal, PGY4

Vincent Lin & Kevin Higgins, Sunnybrook

Eric Monteiro, PGY5

Al Chiodo, Toronto East General Hospital

Stephan Haerle, Clinical Fellow

Adam Toth, Mississauga Campus

Jeniffer Anderson, St. Michael's Hospital

This will be a very busy year for the Residency Program Committee and the Department as we prepare for **Accreditation 2013**. The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons will be performing an external review of the University of Toronto Postgraduate Programs from **April 7 to 12, 2013**.

Bellringers:

Dr. Vinay Fernandes has been elected as a member to the PAIRO General Counsel, representing Otolaryngology and Ophthalmology for the city of Toronto. Congratulations Vinay!

Dr. Jamil Asaria & Dr. Peter Adamson have organized a facial plastic surgery injectable filler course for the residents on January 31, 2013.

Dr. Yvonne Chan, Dr. Al Chiodo & Dr. Peter Adamson have organized a series of lectures on "How to set up a practice" for the residents on the evening of March 6, 2013.

thank{you} Jamil, Peter, Yvonne, and Al.



to place in your calendar is
CaRMS interview day
February 1, 2013

Undergraduate Education

Al Chiodo
MD, FRCSC

I am delighted to have assumed the portfolio of **Undergraduate Medical Education Director** in September from Dr. Paolo Campisi. He should be commended for an exceptional job in developing and administering our UME program over the last 7 years. Dr. Allan Vescan has been appointed Assistant UME Director for the preclerkship. He will specifically deal with preclerkship courses including Mechanisms, Manifestations and Management of Disease (MMMD), Arts and Science of Medicine II course (ASCM II), and the Determinants of Community Health II course (DOCH II course). Dr. John Lee has been appointed as Assistant UME Director for the Postclerkship to deal with postclerkship courses including Portfolio, Problem Based Learning (PBL), Transition to Residency (TTR) and Fusion courses. My main responsibilities will be to the 3rd year clerkship course along with overall administration of the UME portfolio.

Our UME committee is based on the academy system and consists of the following individuals:

Assistant UME Directors-John Lee (also representing Fitzgerald Academy) & Allan Vescan (also representing Wightman Berris - Mt. Sinai)

Dale Brown - Wightman Berris Academy (UHN)

Jean Davidson - Peters-Boyd Academy (Sunnybrook)

Yvonne Chan - Mississauga Academy (Trillium Health Partners)

Paolo Campisi - Hospital for Sick Children

Susan Druker - Audiology

Eric Lai - Student Representative

The Undergraduate Medical Education Program recently underwent an accreditation survey visit of the MD program in May, 2012 receiving full accreditation for another 8 years by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). Our program (among many other programs in the MD program) was singled out as "in compliance with monitoring" with regards to low student satisfaction. We have undertaken numerous initia-

tives in the clerkship to try and improve student satisfaction. We have standardized a welcoming package for students. In addition, we have introduced encounter cards developed by Dr. Campisi to foster interaction between academy site directors/faculty and students. Specifically, the encounter cards allow for core clinical skills such as history and physical exam skills to be observed. Furthermore, we have undertaken an initiative to offer a community Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery clerkship experience. The Toronto East General Hospital has been the pilot project for this initiative this year for Wightman-Berris students. Hopefully, we plan to expand this community rotation to all academies with the help of our Community Academic Faculty partners. The emergence of the clerkship experience at the Mississauga Academy will further contribute to this community OTOHNS training. Our biggest challenge for the Mississauga Academy will be to secure a location for our outpatient-teaching clinic along with continuous funding for support staff for the clinic. Finally, to improve student satisfaction, we plan on improving the materials provided to students on the clerkship portal and providing interactive learning modules.

In the preclerkship, the MMMD course will be in early February. The course will be streamlined in terms of the content and breadth of the lectures and materials presented. We plan on doing an OTOHNS interest group meeting for the students during our MMMD week using the "Otosimulator". The ASCM II course will go unchanged this year except for updating the physical exam videos for next year. A longitudinal experience is being planned hopefully for the upcoming academic year of 2013-14. This will provide 3 to 4 successive weekly half-day clinic sessions with a single preceptor within the second year of the curriculum. With the expansion of our community OTOHNS program, we will hopefully have enough preceptors to participate in this program.

In the postclerkship courses, I wanted to thank Dr. Davidson for teaching in the PBL course. We have received extra time in the Fusion Course (the old Bruce Tovee Lectures given at the end of the 4th year). Dr. Lee will be delivering these lectures. Furthermore, we are thankful to have 2 residents, Drs. Arruda and Eskander, participating in the Portfolio course.

Finally, I wanted to thank Drs. Campisi and Witterick for their ongoing support and guidance along with Drs. Vescan and Lee for the assistance with the pre and post clerkship. Our administrative staff, Sandra, Sonia and Audrea should also be commended for their hard work. I wish students, residents, faculty, alumni and friends of the department a Happy Holiday Season.

Research

News from Bob Harrison's Auditory Science Lab @ The Hospital for Sick Children

This summer was busy in the lab with two very enthusiastic students in the lab working on projects related to cochlear trauma, namely Cullen Allemang and Adrienne Harrison. Both back to school now but good work guys!

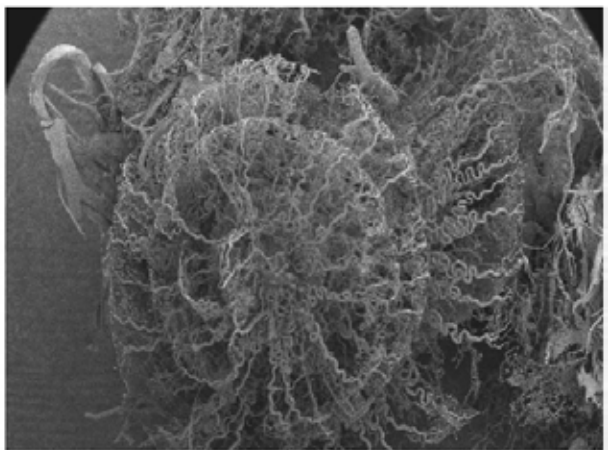
Ujimoto Konomi, a visiting scholar from Tokyo University Medical School, returned to Otolaryngology duties after a year in the lab. He had a very productive fellowship here working on sound coding in the auditory midbrain and on otoacoustic emission research in human and animal models. The latter was collaboration with Adrian James and the pediatric otolaryngology fellow Sohit Kanotra.

Lisa D'Alessandro (PhD candidate) has continued to work hard on various projects including some novel applications of cfos immunostaining to "visualize" neural activation patterns in the auditory midbrain (inferior colliculus).

This month sees a new face in the lab, namely Mattia Carraro, a Master's student in the Institute of Biomaterials and Bio-medical Engineering. Mattia hails from Spain and is here with his wife. Welcome Mattia to Toronto!



Moto's final going away party crowd!



A number of research collaborations with Evan Propst (HSC) and Vincent Lin (Sunnybrook) and Lukas Kus (otolaryngology resident) aided by our own Jaina Negandhi have produced interesting findings about the vasculature of the larynx and of the cochlea. See one of these images to the side (derived using corrosion casting and scanning electron microscopy).

A

thank{you}

from Bob for all your hard work this summer!

continued from page 7...

Unbelievable! That's what you would have thought if you had attended and what you did think if you were there.

Year after year we have many new projects described which I guess is not surprising given that Science is always moving forward. But the range of research from auditory and vestibular science to head and neck oncology is vast. We have expertise in probing cellular signaling pathways relating to tumour growth and to haircell growth! We have important research on practical clinical, epidemiological, and surgical issues. We have innovative methods for teaching and new diagnostic techniques.

thank{you} for all of those that participated, especially those that presented on the evening.

So, in addition to the team leaders listed above, thanks to **Alain Dabdoub, Lendra Friesen, Kevin Higgins, David Pothier, Jeremy Freeman, Ajay Matta, Karen Gordon and Sharon Cushing.**

I know that the new trainees will now have the "big picture" on the academic work done in our specialty, and those staff who did attend should feel justifiable proud of our University Department.

In Memorium



Dr. Robert (Bob) Macdonald passed away peacefully at home on July 9, 2012.

Bob was a wonderful faculty member & alumnus who was highly intelligent, innovative, gracious, kind, and a superb clinician and surgeon. His contributions to the Hospital for Sick Children, North York General Hospital and other Toronto area hospitals was enormous. Bob always had a smile and kind word for everyone he worked with. Many of our faculty will have favourite "Bob Macdonald" stories, some of which are legendary. Our Department extends sincere sympathy to Bob's family including his wife Pam, his sons Peter, Michael, Jeffrey and their families (Bob's son Michael is also an alumnus of our program).

Annual Golf Day

Our Department held another very successful **Golf Day** on Friday September 14th, 2012 at Piper's Heath Golf Club in Milton.



Despite a little "mist", a good time was had by all.

Congratulations to all residents, fellows & faculty who participated

and a special {Congratulations} to **Dr. Allan Vescan** for winning the tournament ^(again).

thank{you} to Drs. Vinay Fernandes & Eric Monterio for organizing the day.

Announcements



Congratulations to **Artur Gevorgyan**
on his engagement to
Eileen Allaverdian-Orumie
on August 18, 2012.

New Arrivals !!

On July 2, 2012 Raphael (Rafa) Abraham Freeman Elpidorou (right) came into the world in Montreal, Canada. Parents, Lauren Freeman and Andreas Elpidorou who now reside in Boston, Massachusetts are ecstatic as are the proud grandparents, Elayne and **Jeremy Freeman**.



With great love and joy we announce the birth of our sweet angel **SANAY RALHAN** (left). Born August 2, 2012 weighing 8lbs 11oz, 53cm.

His first breath took ours away.....

Taryn Davids welcomed her baby boy Jacob Matthew Bross on October 21 weighing 6lbs 6oz

Manish Shah and wife Tania are thrilled to welcome the newest addition to their family

Arjen Olivier Shah born on November 13, 2012 weighing 4lbs 14 oz



What are they up to now ???

Dustin Dalgorf

Upon completion of residency I flew to the opposite end of the globe and arrived in Sydney, Australia with my family.

I am currently doing a Rhinology and Skull Base Surgery Fellowship and each day is another learning experience. I have had the fortunate opportunity to work with residents, participate in several conferences as faculty and work in an aboriginal outreach clinic within Australia.

Now, having survived the "harsh" Australian winter, I am looking forward to summer.

Artur Gevorgyan

Hallo from Amsterdam!

I've started my fellowship in Amsterdam with Professor Wytse Fokkens in September. Already 2 months, and the responsibilities are growing by day. I love finally being able to read the books and papers I wanted to read. I love operating and learning from senior staff about advanced rhinology and skull base surgery. Most importantly, I love feeling very well trained and knowledgeable in many aspects of Otolaryngology, thanks to our program!

Sharon Morong

I am now happily settled in Europe working hard in my sleep/rhinology fellowship and soaking up the beauty of the city of Amsterdam. It is very different here; giving grand rounds comes with a glass of wine and giving instructional workshops is rewarded with free flights to Rome!
!OMG!

I admire the Dutch for their excellent knowledge of English but I am determined to have a conversation in Dutch by the end of my fellowship – right now, Dutch

to me is the persistent clearing of one's throat, which I've been told represents words with meaning, so I have a long way to go but am excited to get there!

Sanjee Nadarajah

Passing the exam and finishing the residency gave me a sense of achievement. I took a vacation and had a wonderful time with family and friends.

I am looking for a position as a General Otolaryngologist, possibly away from GTA.

One particular place seems ideal; I have been to see the site and am waiting to hear from them, fingers crossed.

Mean time, I have set up locum jobs, until I get a permanent post.

I take this opportunity to thank all my staff, colleagues, medical and academic secretaries without whom, I wouldn't have reached my ambition.

Eitan Prisman

I am at Mount Sinai hospital in New York City doing a Head and Neck Oncology fellowship under Dr. Genden's mentorship. I am enjoying a significant experience in transoral robotic surgery, microvascular reconstruction and finding playgrounds at central park for my kids. The difference in health care has been enlightening. The faculty and residents have been very welcoming and, as a family, we are very much enjoying the city life and all it has to offer.



*Eitan and his family in New York
(Statue of Liberty in the background).*

Adrienne Wong

I'm in Pittsburgh doing a 12-month fellowship in Laryngology with Drs. Clark Rosen, Libby Smith, and VyVy Young. They are a dynamic group and I'm having a great time learning about the subspecialty.

There is no shortage of interesting voice and airway cases and lots of in-office procedures. Pittsburgh is the home of many things, including Heinz ketchup, Mister Rogers (yes this is his neighbourhood!!), Andy Warhol, steel barons and philanthropists Carnegie and Mellon, and of course, the sports teams that paint this town black and yellow, the Steelers, Penguins, and Pirates. I am enjoying exploring the old, rich architecture of the city and its many green spaces and rolling hills. Come for a visit! The shopping is pretty good. There's no sales tax on clothes. Just sayin' :)

Continuing Education & Professional Development

Upcoming Courses:

- Feb 1, 2013: Open Rhinoplasty Course
Dr. Oakley Smith
- Feb 2, 2013: 11th Annual Oto Update@TEGH
- Apr 24-25, 2013: Endoscopic Ear Course
Dr. David Pothier
- July 10-14, 2013: 2nd World Congress on Thyroid Cancer, Dr. Jeremy Freeman & Dr. Ian Witterick
- August 2013: Paediatric Temporal Bone Course
Dr. Adrian James
- 2014: Current Concepts in Head & Neck Surgery (in Toronto)
- 2016: International Symposium on Cochlear Implantation in Children

Upcoming Events:

- Feb 2, 2013: U of T Department of OHNS Alumni Dinner

Visiting Professors:

- Dec 14, 2012: The Peter & Melanie Munk Lecture: Dr. Cor Cremers
- Jan 11, 2013: Dr. David Baguley
- Feb 1, 2013: Oto Update visiting professor: Dr. Steve Pearlman
- Feb 8, 2013: David Tomlinson Lecture: Dr. Sharon Cushing
- Feb 22, 2013: Krista Rico Lecture: Dr. Karen Gordon
- Apr 5, 2013: The John Palmer Lecture: Dr. Quan-Yang Duh
- Apr 12, 2013: Dr. Viren Naik
- Apr 19, 2013: Dr. Alex Chiu
- May 23 & 24, 2013: Dr. Tristan Lesser

thank{you}

**Dr. Vito Forte for coordinating
weekly Grand Rounds!**

Face the Future Foundation

Changing the Face of the Future, One Child at a Time

...humanitarian surgical missions to less developed countries

Dr. Peter Adamson

A surgical team of seven was sent to Ulyanovsk, Russia in May 2012, as well as a team of ten to celebrate the 20th anniversary to Ekaterinburg, Russia in October 2012. The Foundation also had a pilot mission to Antigua, Guatemala in April 2012 and another pilot mission to Kigali, Rwanda in July 2012. They will be sending a mission of seven to Kigali, Rwanda in early February 2013 and have another similar-sized mission to Ulyanovsk, Russia in June 2013.

The focus of their mission is to operate on children with congenital, traumatic or post-ablative facial deformities. They have also extended their mandate to take other surgeons and paramedical professionals such as anaesthesiologists, oculoplastic surgeons, speech pathologists, social workers, etc. so that they might not only improve the care of the individual child but also teach the local surgeons so that over time their standards of care can be elevated.

You can check out their new website at:
<http://www.facethefuturefoundation.com>

Access Hear

Promoting international development by advancing health education, health care, health care systems, scientific exchange, research and public health thus connecting Canada, the Middle East and international partners in common purpose.

Dr. Arnold Noyek

Can you imagine the impact of the Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (www.CISEPO.ca) on health as a bridge to peace in the Middle East across the Arab and Israeli frontier for the past 17 years, on global health and international development for 40

years, and in the world of disability in the field of hearing loss more recently? Can you imagine an Ontario based, Canadian lead movement - pioneering on the global health scene - beginning here in our Department - finding and fixing children with severe hearing loss and preparing them for normal education? Can you imagine that in the process Canadian, Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian universities and faculties have come together in a spirit of cooperation and building trust and confidence?

It happened as one of the many dimensions of CISEPO's team vision, in continuing educational partnership with our University and our faculty, and in typical Canadian style, it's happened quietly on the world stage. We have created pioneering provincial health policy since 2001 and over a million babies have been screened here in Ontario. The model has been lifted with the support of the Canadian government into the Middle East and over 800,000 babies in Jordan have been screened for hearing loss, habilitated and families affected have been supported in the previously unaddressed public-health issue of genetic hearing loss since 2007 as national health policy.

Similarly in Israel 320,000 babies have been screened and fixed since 2010 through adopting our methodologies and the implementation of universal newborn hearing screening implemented as national health policy. All of this rich project activity, and much more in other disciplines, has created new normals in people-to-people relations across borders and in university curricula. And now our attention turns to creating the dignity of employment for those disabled through hearing loss and creating a model on the global scene to allow those with disabilities to chart

their own course in life through training, finally finding a job and by manufacturing affordable hearing aids for poor populations*. Watch this video! Remember, it's Canadian eh!

To view the 2012 Access Hear Project on video, go to: <https://vimeo.com/52974256>

*Access Hear is a unique social business model, staffed and operated by youth and young adults severely disabled by genetic hearing loss. Access Hear is pioneered in Jordan, under the direction of Ahmad Al Karaki, on the campus of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in Amman. It is the first cooperative project as a result of a memorandum of understanding between the RSS, CISEPO and American CISEPO. Dr. Arnold Noyek, Senior Ashoka fellow for Canada (www.ashoka.org) and CISEPO founder, has drawn on Ashoka Globalizer and social entrepreneurial concepts, with the team, to promote and contribute to financing this remarkable project to advance the cause of disability and poverty reduction on the world scene.

Smile China Project

Providing specialized surgical, medical and health care services to children affected with facial deformities in poor developing areas within the People's Republic of China

Dr. Joseph Wong

Congratulations to Dr. Joseph Wong for his most successful international outreach with Smile China. The Smile China Project is a Canadian registered charity that has a mission of providing free facial plastic and reconstructive surgeries to underprivileged children in China, while also providing teaching of surgical techniques to local surgeons. Their goal is to help in providing a sustainable solution to the burden of approximately 40,000 new cases of cleft lip and palate born every year in China. They work in partnership with the Chinese government and Chinese Medical community. For eleven years, the Smile China Project has successfully performed over 600 cleft deformities and helped with the training of hundreds of surgeons through hands on teaching, lectures and medical conferences.

You can check out their new website at:

<http://www.smilechinaproject.org> or <http://www.smilechina.com>



Dr. Joseph Wong (centre) from the Smile Canada 2011 mission and the 10 year memorial stone presented to them on the front grounds of the Peace Hospital affiliated with the Changzhi Medical College in Changzhi, Shanxi, China.



"The ten year memorial stone recognizing Dr. Joseph Wong and the University of Toronto"

*From all of us,
to all of you...*



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