

OHNS Newsletter



Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Spring/Summer 2023



CHAIR'S MESSAGE

I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer and a chance to recharge. The fall is coming and along with it another exciting academic year.

Our world class department has enjoyed another tremendous six months of academic and clinical excellence. Our collective achievements are highlighted in this newsletter and are a testament to all your incredible work.

As planned, we have launched an expanded divisional model for the department that has seen the establishment of three new divisions. This new structure gives all our subspecialties a voice and a greater opportunity to contribute to our academic and clinical programs. The divisions and their chiefs include General Otolaryngology (Dr. Janet Chung), Otology-Neurotology (Dr. Adrian James), Laryngology (Dr. R. Jun Lin), Audiology (Vicky Papaioannou), Rhinology (Dr. John Lee), Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (Dr. Andres Gantous), Pediatrics (Dr. Blake Papsin), and Head & Neck Oncology and Reconstructive Surgery (Dr. Jonathan Irish). I encourage all our faculty to engage with the divisions and help advance our mission to be best in class across all areas of our wonderful specialty.

This year five of our faculty successfully received senior academic promotions. I was very proud to see Drs. Cushing and Propst promoted to the academic rank of full professor and Drs. Eskander, Le, and Wolter promoted to the rank of associate professor. These promotions recognize the sacrifice, academic excellence, and national/international reputation of our faculty. I look forward to celebrating their accomplishments with all of you in the fall at a reception to be held in their honour.

Dr. Antoine Eskander was named the new chief of the department of Otolaryngology -Head & Neck Surgery at Michael Garron Hospital. The department is extremely thankful to Dr. Brad Hubbard, who served as interim chief, for his leadership and sacrifice. I look forward to the continued success of the entire MGH team.

The department also welcomed six new clinical faculty. These include Dr. Amr Hamour, Dr. Andrew Ma, Dr. Vincent Wu, Dr. Jason Xu, and Dr. Weining Yang. Dr. Jennifer Siu was successfully recruited to join our team at SickKids following her fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle. I look forward to their contributions and I am so excited to have them join our team.

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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Undergraduate Coordinator

Josie Romantini
umecoordinator.ohns@utoronto.ca

Events Coordinator

Ivy Zhang
events.ohns@utoronto.ca

Keep in touch!

ohns.chairsassistant@utoronto.ca

Leading Innovation. Achieving Impact

Sadly, our department lost two very special people. Dr. Derek Birt, who served as our program director from 1988 to 1998 and was a cherished friend and colleague to many, passed away on May 31, 2023. Mrs. Helen Vari, who, along with her late husband George, graciously established the George and Helen Vari Chair in Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, passed away on March 16, 2023. May they both rest in peace. Their contributions to the department were enormous and will not be forgotten.

On April 28th we were honoured to welcome Dr. KJ Lee as this year's Percy Ireland Visiting Professor. The weekend was a marvelous success and an opportunity to come together and celebrate the scholarly work of our brilliant residents and fellows. Remarkably, an additional sixteen visiting professors gave grand rounds. These included inspirational lectures from Dr. Travis Tollefson (UC Davis), who was the 2023 Joseph Wong – Smile China guest professor, and Dr. Jeffery Holt (Harvard University), who gave this year's Krista Riko lecture.

The highlight of our continuing professional development program was the 21st Annual Otolaryngology Update which was held on February 4, 2023. I would like to thank Dr. Yvonne Chan and the entire planning committee for an outstanding program which included a wonderfully diverse and expert faculty. The day was followed by a well-attended reception at the Arts and Letters Club. Please save the date for next year's OtoUpdate which will be held on February 3, 2024.

Finally, I wish to congratulate all our graduating residents and fellows as they become alumni and ambassadors of our department. We will be watching your careers with great pride. With every graduating class comes an incoming class and this year we are so lucky to have recruited our new PGY1s: Drs. Daniel, Khalil, Lee, Mavedatnia, and Trac were the absolute cream of the crop of an extremely competitive cohort of applicants! I, along with the entire faculty, wish them a very successful residency.

As I reflect on these accomplishments and on my first year as Chair of this incredible department, I am truly thankful to all of you, the members of our executive, our faculty, residents, fellows, and alumni, for your contributions, dedication, and sacrifice. Our success is a collective achievement that we should all take pride in.

Danny

31st ANNUAL PERCY IRELAND DINNER & ACADEMIC DAY

April 28-29, 2023

Our **Visiting Professor Dr. KJ Lee** gave the **Percy Ireland Oration** on Friday April 28, 2023.

Dr. Ian J. Witterick was our **Guest of Honour**.

The Dinner was held at the University of Toronto's Hart House on the Friday evening.

The Academic Day took place the following day at the Chestnut Conference Centre.



ANNUAL DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS ~ 2023

Percy Ireland Presentation Awards

Category 1 - Work undertaken by Graduate Degree Students: Awarded to **Matsya Thulasiram** for her project "Investigating the Proliferative Capacity of the Young and Adult Stria Vascularis Using in Vitro Whole-Tissue Organotypic Explants"

Category 2 - Work undertaken by PGY2 Residents during clinical rotation: Awarded to **Dr. Mandolin Bartling** for her project "Deep Learning-Enabled Fluorescence Imaging for Surgical Guidance: Tumour Depth Modelling with Patient Imaging"

Category 3 - Work undertaken by PGY3 Residents during clinical rotation: Awarded to **Dr. Justine Philteos** for her project "Telemedicine Enabled Biofeedback Electropalatography Rehabilitation (TEBER): A Pilot Study for Patients Treated with Surgery for Oral Cavity Carcinoma"

Category 4 - Work undertaken by PGY4 Residents during clinical rotation: Awarded to **Dr. Christopher Noel** for his project "Association of Household Income at Diagnosis with Financial Toxicity, Health Utility, and Survival in Patients with HNC"

Category 5 - Work undertaken by post-residency clinical/research fellows and postdoctoral fellows: Awarded to **Dr. Vivek Sharma** for his project "Neurophysiological Evidence for Aberrant Auditory Processing for Language in Autism Spectrum Disorder"

Resident Awards

Chapnik, Freeman & Friedberg Clinical Scientist Program Award....[Dr. Janet Chung](#)

Dr. Ian Witterick Excellence in Mentorship and Innovation Award....[Dr. Jong Wook \(John\) Lee](#)

Dr. Ian Witterick Research Award in Otolaryngology-HNS....[Dr. Justine Philteos and Matsya Thulasiram](#)

Freda Noyek Otolaryngology Merit Award....[Dr. Justine Philteos](#)

Judy Chauvin Otolaryngology Resident Award....[Dr. Tanya Chen](#)

Nimeck Otolaryngology Award....[Dr. Jong Wook \(John\) Lee](#)

Wharton Head & Neck Research Award....[Dr. Justine Philteos](#)

Fellow Awards

Dr. Kris Conrad Merit Award in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery...[Dr. Mohammed Jomah](#)

Undergraduate Awards

Hugh Barber Scholarship in Otolaryngology...[Dr. Ryan Daniel](#)

Teaching Awards

Alma Smitheringale Undergraduate Teaching Award...[Dr. Aman Grewal](#)

Resident Teacher of the Year Award...[Dr. Amr Hamour](#)

Fellow Teacher of the Year Award...[Dr. Demir Bajin](#)

Faculty Teacher of the Year Award...[Dr. Kevin Higgins](#)

Resident Advocate Awards...[Dr. Antoine Eskander and Dr. Eric Monteiro](#)

Distinguished Alumnus Award...[Dr. Vincent Lin](#)

Research Scholarships

Raymond H. W. Ng Graduate Scholarship...[Boaz Ehiogu](#)

Raymond H. W. Ng PhD Scholarships...[Priyanka Prince & Robel Alemu](#)

Wilfred Goodman Award in Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery...[Dr. Jin Soo Song](#)

Harry Barberian Scholarships

[Dr. Mandolin Bartling \(Dr. Jon Irish/Mike Daly\)](#)

AI-Powered Fluorescence Imaging for Surgical Guidance: Oral Cancer Post-Excision Margin Evaluation

[Dr. Tanya Chen \(Dr. Joel Davies\)](#)

The Impact of Patient-specific Surgical Cutting Grades on Pathological Margin Status: A Prospective Study on Virtual Surgical Planning in Head and Neck Cancer

[Dr. Hugh Kim \(Dr. Christopher Yao\)](#)

Optimizing Angles and Minimizing Bite Forces for Long Term Stability for Mandibulectomies: A Sawbones Pilot Project

[Dr. Daniel Mul \(Dr. Nik Wolter\)](#)

Smart Materials for Button Battery Impaction Protection

[Dr. Gianluca Sampieri \(Dr. Joel Davies\)](#)

Use of Smartphone Infrared Thermography to Identify Medial Sural Artery Free Flap Perforators and Assist in Free Flap Planning

Creating a sustainable future



(Photo by David Lee)

The University of Toronto has planted the seeds of climate action – and sustainability more broadly – and expects to see them flourish in the year ahead.

Kristy Facer, director of the President's Committee on the Environment, Climate Change & Sustainability (CECCS), says that U of T can be an even greater agent for sustainable change by strengthening and expanding our work with community members and partners across its three campuses, in Toronto, Canada and globally.

[Read more](#)

Annual Dinner - Friday April 28, 2023 - University of Toronto's Hart House





Academic Day - Saturday April 29, 2023 - Chestnut Conference Centre



Acknowledging our Supporters

Atos	NeilMed
Ethicon/J&J	Olympus,
HearingLife	Sanofi
Inomed	Southmedic
Integra	Stryker
Karl Storz	TSG Medical
Medtronic	Zimmer Biomet

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Faculty Promotions

Congratulations to the following faculty members for their recent academic promotions.
This great honour represents the culmination of tremendous work, impact, and prominence in the field.

Full Professor



Sharon Cushing



Evan Propst



Tony Eskander



Trung Le



Nik Wolter

Associate Professor

Newly Recruited Faculty

Clinical Adjunct



Andrew Ma
Lecturer



Vincent Wu
Lecturer



Jason Xu
Lecturer



Weining Yang
Lecturer



Jennifer Siu
Assistant
Professor

Clinical Part-time



Amr Hamour
Assistant Professor

Status only



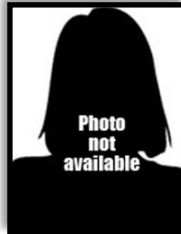
Ricky Chow
Lecturer



Thomas Looi
Assistant Professor



Dana Song
Lecturer



Kaitlin Harvey
Lecturer



**Kassandra
Kaminskas**
Lecturer

Cross Appointment



Lueder Kahrs
Assistant
Professor

Welcome to the department

New Departmental Committee *Equity, Diversity & Inclusion*

We are very excited to announce the establishment of our EDI Committee.

This important committee will have tripartite leadership.



Dr. Dupe Oyewumi

Chair & Community Lead



Dr. Yvonne Chan

Academic Lead



Dr. Adam Kwinter
PGY4

Learner Lead



Dr. Ambrose Lee has been appointed our new **Director of Undergraduate Medical Education**. Ambrose assumed this important role on April 1, 2023. His energy, passion, and skill will take our already great program to new heights.



A sincere thank Dr. Al Vescan and our two prior assistant UME directors, Drs. Brad Hubbard and John Lee, for their outstanding contributions to our UME program and their years of service.



Congratulations **Dr. Yvonne Chan** who was selected as the recipient of the **Unity Health Distinguished Educator Award – Physician** in recognition for her remarkable achievements and innovative approaches in teaching, as well as her unwavering dedication and commitment to fostering learning and engagement.



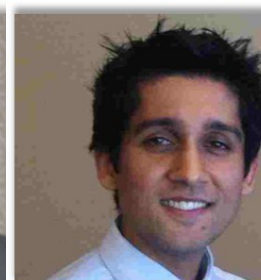
Congratulations **Dr. Joel Davies** who has been awarded the prestigious **Wightman-Berris Academy Individual Teaching Excellence Award** in the Undergraduate category for 2022-23.

Dr. Tony Eskander has been appointed as the new **Chief of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery at Michael Garron Hospital**. I look forward to his leadership and contributions to the mission of this great institution and our department.

Thank you Dr. Brad Hubbard for the leadership and hard work during your tenure as the interim-chief. We are indebted to him for his tremendous service and for his many contributions.



Congratulations



Congratulations **Drs. Yvonne Chan, Al Chiodo, Janet Chung, William El Masri, Aman Grewal and Eric Monteiro** who are recipients of the **MD Program Teaching Excellence Award** for the 2021-2022 academic year.



Congratulations to **Dr. Ian Witterick and his OR Team** who have been selected as the recipients of a **Sinai Health Collaboration in Education Award**.

This is especially noteworthy as it was for their collaborative efforts in welcoming and teaching new nurses/nursing students in their operating room and were nominated by the Clinical Nurse Specialist on their ward.

Joel accepted on their behalf and is pictured with Sinai Health VP Education Dr. Jacqueline James

Congratulations

Our cohort of residents recently attended a wedding of **Dr. Christopher Yao**, staff at the Toronto General Hospital, near Seattle.



Alumni of our Residency Program (2018 cohort)



Left to right: Jason Xu, Andrew Ma, Christopher Yao, Jonathan Yip, Stephen Chen



Congratulations **Dr. Molly Zirkle** for being named the **Director of the Scarborough Academy of Medicine and Integrated Health Expansion** for the Temerty Faculty of Medicine. This is a wonderful accomplishment and so well deserved. The department is very proud and appreciative of Molly's commitment to medical education and wishes her tremendous success.

Congratulations

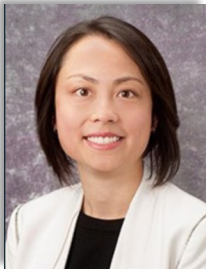
New Departmental Divisions & Leads

Division of General
Otolaryngology



Janet Chung

Division of
Laryngology



R. Jun Lin

Division of
Otology-Neurotology



Adrian James

These new divisions along with our established divisions of head & neck oncology and reconstructive surgery, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, rhinology, and audiology will give all our subspecialties a voice on the Executive Committee and will engage all our faculty and community partners in their membership.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS



Shan Gao who will be taking over the role of business manager for our department. Shan is a superstar who holds an honours bachelor of science degree with distinction from the University of Toronto and has been working in administration since 2015. She has held administrative positions at the Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research and in the Faculty of Law. Most recently she was the business manager for the University of Toronto's Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

Shan is replacing Audrea Martin who started her retirement in May 2023. The department owes Audrea a huge debt of gratitude. She made lasting and impactful contributions to our department and we wish her all the best.



In January 2023, Josie Romantini assumed the role of our undergraduate coordinator, a newly established administrative position within the department.

Josie has a Bachelor of Arts Honours Law and Society degree from York University and previous work experience at the Palmeri Media Group. Please direct your undergraduate related emails and enquiries to Josie at umecoordinator.ohns@utorontoca. This role is transitioning from Andrea Donovan, thank you Andrea for all the hard work that you have done in the past years and making this an easy transition.



Olivia Beasley joined our administrative team in June 2023 as our interim Education Coordinator during Andrea's maternity leave.

Olivia has an impressive background in Education Administration and Executive Assistant roles at renowned institutions such as Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, U of T Department of Radiation Oncology, and the Veterans Centre. Olivia is well-equipped to take on this role.

Welcome to the department

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Graduation Ceremony June 15, 2023

Congratulations to all our Residents and Fellows! Thank you for all that you have done for our department and patients.





New PGY1s - July 1, 2023



Ryan Daniel
University of Toronto

Carlos Khalil
University of Toronto

Melissa Lee
University of
British Columbia

Dorsa Mavedatnia
University of Ottawa

Jessica Trac
University of Toronto

New Fellows - July 1, 2023

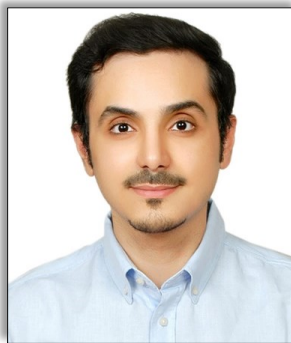
Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery



**Ziyad Abdullah A.
Alabduljabbar**
King Saud University



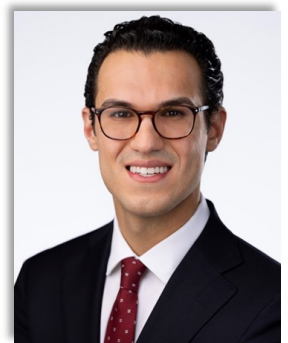
Nisreen Al-Musaileem
Kuwait University



**Waleed Mohammed
Alshehri**
Imam Mohammad Ibn
Saud Islamic University



Cibele Madsen Buba
Federal University of Santa
Maria



Keon Mahmoud Parsa
Georgetown University

Head & Neck Surgical Oncology



Elliot Yuk-Gai Koo
East Virginia Medical School



Alon Pener-Tessler
Hebrew University



Leba Michael Sarkis
University of Sydney



Tiziana Mondello
Humanitas University

Research Fellowship

**Medical & Surgical
Otology/Neurotology**



David Dick
Queens University Belfast

**Rhinology, Skull Base
and Head & Neck Oncology**



Alexander Dickie
Memorial University,
Newfoundland

**Paediatric
Otolaryngology**



Alexander Marc Treble
University of Sydney

**Otology - Skull Base
Surgery**



Jennifer Lee Spiegel
University of Innsbruck

Welcome BBQ 2023

The annual welcome BBQ for the incoming PGY1s occurred on July 20, 2023 at the Lin residence.

Welcome to the department!





Fellows Welcome BBQ 2023

A welcome BBQ for the newest fellows took place on July 27, 2023 at the Enepekides residence.

Welcome to the department!



We are delighted to announce that **Dr. Chantal Li** has been elected by her co-residents to serve as the **2023-2024 Chief Resident** for the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery.

Congratulations Chantal! 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. Amr Hamour for his service as 2022-2023 Chief Resident. Dr. Hamour diligently and effectively served the residents and Department over the past year.

Thank you Amr for your hard work and numerous contributions!

Congratulations **Drs. Emily Cheng, Nicole Crimi, Hugh Kim, and Jacob Wihlidal** for winning this year's Surgical Foundations Quality Improvement Competition for their project titled

"Listening to the Earth in Pediatric Otolaryngology: A QI project to minimize disposable waste produced in clinic".





PGY2 residents **Mandolin Bartling** (left) & **Tanya Chen** both gave remarkable presentations at the annual AHNS meeting in July 2023. They did a wonderful job. A proud moment for the department!



Thank you **Dr. John Lee** & **Dr. Al Vescan** for organizing a wonderful resident sinus course on Saturday April 15, 2023. Thank you also to all our faculty who took time out of your Saturday to provide one-on-one teaching especially to the junior residents who really appreciate your expertise and patience to guide them through their first "sinus surgery"



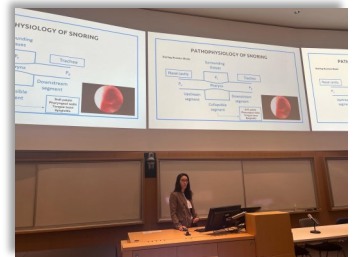
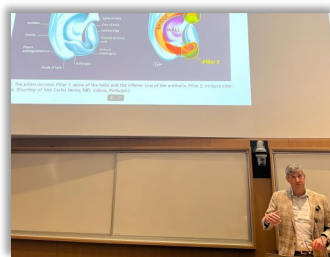
Many thanks to **Dr. Jamil Asaria**, for hosting, and **Dr. Yvonne Chan** for organizing an injectables course for our residents on Monday February 13, 2023. Excellent presentations and teaching by Drs. Ashlin Alexander, Andres Gantous and clinical fellow Rohan Joshi.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023 Annual Otolaryngology Update

Saturday February 4, 2023

Thank you to **Dr. Yvonne Chan** and the course Planning Committee for organizing such a comprehensive program for our first in-person OtoUpdate since February 2020! A huge thank you to all the faculty, guest speakers, panellists, corporate sponsors and attendees.



SAVE THE DATE

OTOLARYNGOLOGY UPDATE 2024

and OMA Annual Otolaryngology
– Head & Neck Surgery
Section Meeting

*Saturday, February 3, 2024
7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning
686 Bay Street, Toronto*

Visiting Professors & Guest Lecturers (Grand Rounds)



January 6, 2023 - Matthew Crowson, MD, MPA, MASc, FRCSC

Attending Surgeon, Neurotology & Otology
Massachusetts Eye & Ear, Massachusetts General Hospital
Assistant Professor, Investigator
Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
Harvard Medical School

Computer Vision for Irritable Toddlers: Improving Diagnostic Accuracy for Ear Infections



January 13, 2023 - Reena Pattani, MDCM, MPH, FRCPC

Staff Physician, Division of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine, St. Michael's Hospital
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto
Director of Learner Experience, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

Learner Mistreatment in Medicine



January 20, 2023 - Patrick C. Walz, MD, FACS, FAAP

Associate Professor, Pediatric Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Director, Pediatric Otolaryngology Outreach and Expansion
Otolaryngology Director, Pediatric Anterior Skull Base Surgery
Nationwide Children's Hospital
The Ohio State University College of Medicine
Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Wexner Medical Center at the Ohio State University

Pediatric Anterior Cranial Base Pathology: Building Partnerships to Optimize Patient Care



February 3, 2023 - Patrick Scheffler, MD, CM, FRCSC

Staff Physician
Department of Otolaryngology
Phoenix Children's Hospital

Multidisciplinary Approach to Pediatric Feeding Disorders: Current Controversies and Future Directions



February 10, 2023 - Nir Lipsman, MD, PhD, FRCSC

Neurosurgeon, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto
Scientist, Sunnybrook Research Institute
Member, Institute of Medical Science
Director, Harquail Centre for Neuromodulation
Director, Neurosurgery Residency Program

Breaking Barriers with Sound: The Past and Future of Focused Ultrasound in Neurosurgery



February 24, 2023 - Arno K. Kumagai, MD

Professor and Vice Chair for Education
Department of Medicine
FM Hill Chair in Humanism Education
Women's College Hospital
University of Toronto

What's Beyond Competencies? Teaching for Humanism in Medical Education



March 3, 2023

Sunit Das, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Division of Neurosurgery, University of Toronto



Radha P. Kohly, MD, PhD, FRCSC

Assistant Professor, Dept of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, University of Toronto
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
Vice Chair of Faculty Development, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and Global Health



Laura Snell, MD, MS, FRCSC

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto
Co-Director, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Dept of Surgery, University of Toronto
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Case-Based Discussion: Cultural Complications



March 24, 2023 - Tori Murden McClure, M.Div., J.D., M.F.A.

President
Spalding University
Louisville, Kentucky

Choosing Between Balloons and Bear Spray



March 31, 2023 - Jane Lea, MD, FRCSC

Clinical Professor, Division of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
University of British Columbia
Director, BC Rotary Hearing & Balance Centre,
St. Paul's Hospital, Providence Health Care
Fellowship Director, UBC Otology & Neurotology

Surgical Coaching: Peer to Peer Coaching for Practicing Staff



May 5, 2023 - Michael Gupta, MD, MSc, FRCSC

Associate Professor
Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
McMaster University

Cannabis in Head and Neck Cancer



May 12, 2023 - Sat Parmar, BChD, BMBS, BMedSci, FDSRCS, FRCS, FRCS (OMFS)

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial / Head and Neck / Reconstructive Surgeon
University Hospital Birmingham
United Kingdom

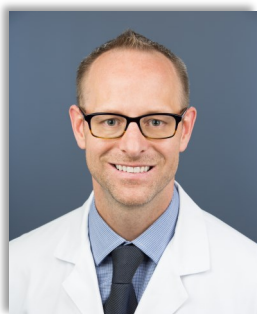
3 Dimensional Bony Reconstruction and the DCIA



May 19, 2023 KRISTA RIKO LECTURE - Jeffrey R. Holt, PhD

Professor of Otolaryngology & Neurology
Director of Research, Otolaryngology
F.M. Kirby Neurobiology Center
Boston Children's Hospital
Harvard Medical School
Harvard-MIT Health Sciences & Technology Faculty

Function, Dysfunction and Restoration of Sensory Transduction Channels in the Inner Ear



May 26, 2023 JOSEPH K.H. WONG/SMILE CHINA LECTURE - Travis T. Tollefson, MD, MPH, FACS

Professor and Director, Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Co-Director, UC Davis Cleft and Craniofacial Team
Director, Fellowship in Facial Plastic Surgery and Reconstructive Surgery
Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, University of California, Davis Health

Surgeons Volunteering: Reshaping the Conversation of Giving



June 23, 2023 - Brian W. Rotenberg, MD, MPH, FRCSC, CCPE

Professor and Residency Program Director
Dept of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery
Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
Western University
Chair, Medical Advisory Committee, St. Joseph's Health Care
co-Editor, Journal of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery

Endoscopic Surgery of the Eustachian Tube: A Handshake between Rhinology and Otolaryngology

GRAND ROUNDS

WILL RECOMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER 2023

IN MEMORIAM

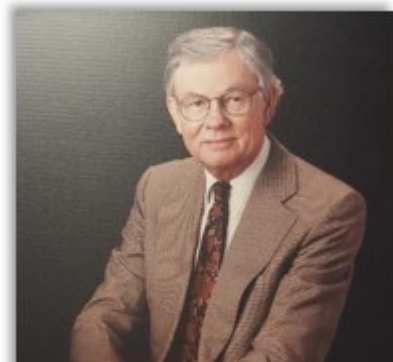


[Full obituary, click here](#)

Helen Vari (Hon DHumL 2011 VIC), a long-time friend of the University of Toronto and an honorary chair of the Defy Gravity Campaign, has passed away. She was 91. A renowned philanthropist, she had a profound impact at the university, endowing a chair in advanced surgery and supporting student scholarships for more than 25 years.

"Helen Vari will be remembered for her steadfast generosity," said Meric Gertler, U of T's president. "She was passionate about health care and education, and we are proud that her philanthropic legacy at the University of Toronto reflects both.

Just two years ago, Vari also endowed the George and Helen Vari Chair in Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery. Inspired by care that George received from Dr. Patrick Gullane, this research chair supports each successive leader of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery. "This chair was an exceptional gift," said Dr. Trevor Young, dean of the Temerty Faculty of Medicine.



Dr. Derek Birt passed away on May 31, 2023.

Dr. Birt was recruited from England by Dr. Bryce to start the head and neck program at Sunnybrook. He served as our department's program director from 1988 to 1998 and made many important contributions that have helped establish our training program as the best in Canada and one of the best in the world. More importantly, he was a gentleman, a cherished colleague, and a dear friend to many. He was predeceased by his lovely wife of 62 years Anne and is survived by his children Catherine and Peter.

ALUMNI RECEPTION

An Alumni & Friends Reception was held on July 9, 2023 at the Montreal Convention Centre in conjunction with the AHNS Annual Conference. There was a great turn out!



A dinner was also held for the past fellows who attended the AHNS Conference.



Have a great

SUMMER!

Stay Safe & Stay Well



Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
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