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Message from the Chair

In addition to substantial growth in clinical activities at the Medical College of Georgia Department of Otolaryngology, the academic productivity of the department has seen tremendous increases this year. The department was well-represented at the Sixth International Head and Neck Congress in Washington, D.C., and a record 10 abstracts from a total of four faculty members were accepted for presentation at the Southern Section meeting of the Triological Society in January of 2005. MCG will be looking to defend its Golf title at that meeting.

Continuing our vision of educational excellence, we will host three first-class conferences in the winter and spring; a temporal bone course in February, a voice and swallowing symposium in March, and a thyroid and parathyroid symposium in April. Details may be found inside.

David J. Terris, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Porubsky Professor and Chairman

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To learn more about recent events in the department, visit our website at: www.mcg.edu/otolaryngology

Record Number of Abstracts Accepted for Southern Section Meeting
(see inside)
Honors

Christine Gourin was inducted into the American Head and Neck Society.

Achih Chen was named to the Editorial Board of the *Annals of Otology, Rhinology and Laryngology*.

Chris McMains (Clinical Instructor and Rhinology Fellow) was chosen as a reviewer for the American Journal of Rhinology, and was elected Co-Chair of the Section for Residents and Fellows (SRF) Committee of the American Academy of Otolaryngology.

David Terris was listed in America’s Top Surgeons; he was also chosen as a consultant to the FDA panel on New ENT Devices, was selected to the Board of Directors of the Georgia Society of Otolaryngology, and was inducted into the American Laryngological Association.

Stilianos Kountakis served as Program Co-Chair for the 50th Anniversary Annual Fall Meeting of the American Rhinologic Society held in New York, and was chosen as a course instructor for the Triological Society Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.

Strategic Planning Conference 2004

The faculty and staff from the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery recently participated in our third annual Strategic Planning Conference at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Augusta, GA. The conference was held on Friday evening, August 20th and Saturday, August 21st. The conference opened with a review of the FY2004 goals and accomplishments. This review provided the foundation for our activities and discussion, as the group went about the task of developing new short-term goals and assessing our progress toward meeting our long-term goals. It is evident that the department is making tremendous progress, and that everyone is committed to fostering an environment of excellence for our patients, residents and staff.

Daiichi Clinical Scholar Program

Dr. Chris McMains was selected as a Daiichi Clinical Scholar by the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery for 2004-2005. The Clinical Scholars Program began in 2001 with the intent to train investigators to perform evidence-based medical research to gain valuable data outcomes. Sponsored by the Daiichi Pharmaceutical Corporation, the year-long program is designed to guide scholars through the process of research topic development within his or her own practice. Chris follows Alan Johnson and Chris Gourin, who entered the same program in 2003.

Record Number of Abstracts Accepted for Southern Section Meeting

A record number of abstracts were accepted for presentation at the Southern Section Meeting of the Triological Society, scheduled for January 13-15, 2005 in Miami, Florida. A total of 10 abstracts will be presented by members of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, representing a variety of topics from head and neck surgery to facial plastic surgery and rhinology. The department had five papers at the same meeting this year, three in 2003 and none in 2002. The growth in academic productivity reflects a renewed commitment to investigative excellence.
Alumni Seen in New York

Among the alumni spotted at the AAO-HNS reception in New York were Bernie Durante ('87), Guy Denis ('82), John Bent ('94) and Eileen Raynor ('98).

“Hot Docs” – Too sexy for their stethoscopes!

Three residents from the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery were selected to participate in the 1st “Hot Docs for Hearts” calendar to benefit the American Heart Association. The calendar, conceived and developed by MICU nurse Kim Williams, RN as an alternative to the usual fund-raising bake sale features a different MCG physician for each month of the year. Tyson Deal, Brennan Wood, and Russ Blankenship were selected as Dr. April, Dr. August and Dr. December, respectively. Calendars are priced at $10 each and can be ordered by calling (706) 871-9134. All proceeds will go to the American Heart Association to support research and education efforts. The Department of Otolaryngology is proud to be so well-represented among MCG’s “Hot Docs”!

Giving Opportunities

There are a number of ways to support the research and education missions of the Department of Otolaryngology. Four funds have been established to provide an opportunity to invest in a healthy future: Porubsky Library Fund, Barton Otolaryngology Fund, Temporal Bone Lab Fund, and Otolaryngology Research Fund. Tax-deductible gifts may be directed toward any of these funds and sent to Kenny Brace, Department of Otolaryngology, Medical College of Georgia, 1120 Fifteenth St BP-4109, Augusta GA 30912.
Gene Therapy

The Department of Otolaryngology is conducting a collaborative study with the Division of Hematology and Oncology utilizing gene therapy in patients with advanced SCC of the head and neck. The study will compare the effectiveness and safety of intratumoral administration of INGN201 in combination with chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone. The principal investigator is Salvador Bruno and sub-investigators are Christine Gourin, David Terris, John Hiemenz and Andre Kallab.

Staff Highlights

Dessie Cooper (sterile supply specialist) recently received the Department of Otolaryngology Distinguished Service Award for her outstanding support of our faculty and staff while they perform outpatient procedures in the office. Dessie repeatedly demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to excellence in providing efficient service and turnaround of necessary instruments and equipment.

Welcome to our Newest Team Members

Kenny Pang
Fellow, Sleep Surgery

Chris McMains
Fellow, Rhinology & Sinus Surgery

Porubsky Symposium 2004

The residents and some of the faculty and alumni are seen as they celebrate the graduation of the Chief Residents

Residents Awarded Travel Scholarships

Russ Blankenship and Brennan Wood were awarded travel scholarships for the Academy Meeting in New York in September 2004. The scholarships were sponsored by Ortho-McNeil and Stryker Leibinger.

Award Winning Resident Presentations at MAES

Residents Chris McMains and Charles Mixson were awarded prizes for their presentations at the annual Metro-Atlanta Otolaryngology Society Meeting in May. Chris delivered a presentation entitled Endoscopic Management of Cerebrospinal Fluid Rhinorrhea. Charles presented Efficacy of Subcapsular Tonsillectomy in the Treatment of Tonsillar Hypertrophy.
Olympus Awards Educational Grant to Laryngology Program

Olympus Corporation, one of the largest manufacturers of medical grade equipment, and a leader in the field of endoscopy, has committed an educational grant to the Medical College of Georgia worth $80,000. This will fund new state-of-the-art equipment in the MCG Voice and Swallowing Center.

Fellow Selected

Francis Ling, M.D. has been selected as the third fellow in Rhinology-Sinus Surgery under Dr. Stil Kountakis. Francis will be joining the Department of Otolaryngology in July 2005. He is currently chief resident at the University of Ottawa.

Jed Howington and Salvador Bruno Join Tumor Board

We are pleased to announce the addition of two new members to our Head and Neck Tumor Board at the Medical College of Georgia. Jed Howington joined us after completing his residency in Radiation Oncology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is published in the technique of gamma knife irradiation. Also joining us is Salvador Bruno. Dr. Bruno had previously completed his Medical Oncology fellowship training at Roswell Park in New York, and has a long track-record of peer-reviewed research. As always, we are pleased to accept patients for consultative services on Thursday mornings. For appointments, please contact Carole Bryant at (706) 721-4400.

Grand Rounds 2004 – 2005

Oct 5 Achih Chen, MD
Medical College of Georgia
The Role of the Midface in Facial Rejuvenation Surgery

Nov 2 David E. Schuller, MD
Ohio State University
Surveillance of Patients after Treatment of Head and Neck Cancer

Dec 7 Michael Poole, MD, PhD
University of Texas-Houston Medical Center
Antibiotic Issues in Otitis and Sinusitis

Jan 4 Paul Lambert, MD
Medical University of South Carolina
Evaluation and Treatment of Congenital Aural Atresia

Feb 1 Randal S. Weber, MD, FACS
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Management of the Neck in Differentiated Thyroid Cancer

Mar 1 Marvin P. Fried, MD, FACS
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Image-Guided Surgery in Otolaryngology

Apr 12 Charles Myer III, MD, FACS
University of Cincinnati
Principles of Airway Reconstruction in Children

New Protocols Approved

Quality of Life Scores in Patients Referred for Operative Compared to Nonoperative Therapy
Principal Investigator: Christine G. Gourin, MD

The Incidence of DT’s in Postoperative Head and Neck Cancer Patients
Principal Investigator: Christine G. Gourin, MD

Minimally Invasive Thyroid Surgery: The Sofferman Technique
Principal Investigator: David J. Terris, MD
The 2nd Annual Porubsky Symposium

The 2nd Annual Porubsky Symposium was held on June 11 and 12, 2004, in conjunction with Alumni Weekend and Chief Resident Graduation. Named in honor of Dr. Edward S. Porubsky, who started the Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery residency program at the Medical College of Georgia more than 25 years ago, the Porubsky symposium featured presentations from Department faculty and residents as well as 2 distinguished guest speakers, Dr. Richard Goode and Dr. Paul Levine. This year’s symposium featured 2 cadaver dissection laboratories where participants performed a variety of head and neck oncologic procedures as well as facial plastic surgery procedures for facial rejuvenation.

Dr. Achih Chen, Director of Facial Plastic Surgery, demonstrates advanced techniques in cosmetic facial surgery to course participants.

The 3rd Annual Porubsky Symposium will be held on June 10 and 11, 2005 and will feature Dr. Michael Maves, former chair of the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Iowa and currently Executive Vice President of the American Medical Association. Mark your calendars now!

Aviv to be Keynote Speaker at Voice and Swallowing Disorders Symposium

Dr. Gregory Postma will direct the 1st Voice and Swallowing Disorders Symposium in the Masters of Otolaryngology series on March 11-13, 2005. His distinguished speaker will be Jonathan Aviv, Professor, Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, and an acknowledged leader in the field of Laryngology. Dr. Aviv has taught hundreds of Otolaryngologists the technique of in-office TNE, which will be a focus of this symposium.

Current Management of Thyroid and Parathyroid Disease

The Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery will hold its first multidisciplinary conference on Current Management of Thyroid and Parathyroid Disease on April 28-30, 2005. Guest speakers include David W. Eisele, M.D., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of California; Helmuth Goepfert, M.D., Emeritus Chairman of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery at the MD Anderson Cancer Center; Gregory W. Randolph, M.D., Director, General and Thyroid Surgical Services Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary; Maisie L. Shindo, Associate Professor of Otolaryngology at the State University of New York; and Robert A. Sofferman, M.D., Professor and Chairman of the Division of Otolaryngology at the University of Vermont. The 3-day course will cover the medical and surgical management of benign and malignant thyroid and parathyroid disease and includes 2 cadaver dissection laboratory sessions with special emphasis on minimally invasive techniques. Make plans now to join us.
Presentations and Publications

Presentations:


Grant Submitted

Chemoprevention of Oral Dysplasia by Green Tea Polyphenols
NIH R21
Principal Investigator: Christine Gourin, M.D.
Voice and Swallowing Disorders
Masters of Otolaryngology Symposium
March 11-13, 2005
Augusta, Georgia

Distinguished Guest Faculty
Jonathan Aviv, M.D.
Columbia University, New York, NY

Course Directors
Gregory Postma, M.D.
Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC
Christine G. Gourin, M.D.
Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA

Contemporary Management of Thyroid and Parathyroid Disorders
Masters of Otolaryngology Symposium
April 28-30, 2005
Augusta, Georgia

Distinguished Guest Faculty
David W. Eisele, M.D.
University of California, San Francisco, CA
Helmuth Goepfert, M.D.
MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Gregory W. Randolph, M.D.
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
Maisie L. Shindo, M.D.
State University of New York at Stony Brook, NY
Robert A. Sofferman, M.D.
University of Vermont College of Medicine, Burlington, VT

Course Directors
Christine G. Gourin, M.D.
David J. Terris, M.D.