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**Head and Neck Team Joins MCG**

The Head and Neck program, and its cornerstone Tumor Board, have enjoyed continued growth and expansion, and we are pleased to announce the addition of two head and neck surgeons to help with this important component of the department.

Lana Jackson is originally from Mississippi and holds dual-doctorate degrees from the University of Mississippi Medical School (Pharmacy and Medicine). Dr. Jackson completed her residency and fellowship training at the Medical College of Georgia and has already accumulated 6 publications and national presentations. She will start on the faculty in July and in addition to directing the head and neck tumor board, she will have a prominent role in the new Clinical Cancer Center.

Joining us in July of 2009, C. Arturo Solares will come from the Cleveland Clinic to build a Skull Base Center at MCG. Dr. Solares has fellowship training from the Queensland Skull Base Unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Australia and brings to Augusta expertise that was not previously available.

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**Phone Numbers and Web Site Address**

Appointments: (706) 721-4400
Academic: (706) 721-6100
Fax: (706) 721-0112

To learn more about recent events in the department, visit: [www.mcg.edu/otolaryngology](http://www.mcg.edu/otolaryngology)
Message from the Chair

As the department heads toward the second half of its sixth year, the azaleas are blooming and Trevor Immelman became the first South African Masters Champion in 30 years. We are making some history of our own as we reach unprecedented surgical volumes and academic productivity. Our earliest multidisciplinary effort, the Head and Neck Tumor Board, will be expanded with two more surgeons, and will spawn yet another multidisciplinary program, the Skull Base Center at MCG. As always, we welcome your feedback as we continue our march to become one of the premier programs in the nation.

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

Honors

Lori Burkhead was named Clinician of the Year from the Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association (GSHA), and has been appointed Chair for the 2009 GSHA Convention. She was visiting professor at Johns Hopkins University, and will be inducted as a member of the AHNS in July.

Stilianos Kountakis was appointed Chair of the Committee on Committees for the American Rhinologic Society, and Chair of the Nominating Committee for the Southern Section of the Triological Society.

Brian McKinnon was visiting professor at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, was inducted as a member of the Politzer Society, and was elected fellow at large for the American Society of Geriatric Otolaryngology.

Gregory Postma was visiting professor at Emory University and McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

David Terris was visiting professor at the University of Puerto Rico, the University of Leon, Mexico, Tripler Army Medical Center, the University of California-Irvine, the Mayo Clinic (Scottsdale), and SUNY Downstate.

Consultant of the Year

Scott DeRossi was unanimously selected as the recipient of the 2008 Otolaryngology Consultant of the Year Award. Dr. DeRossi only recently joined the faculty of the School of Dentistry, coming to us from the University of Pennsylvania. He has already had a profound impact on the care of our patients and the education of our students and residents. He is a worthy recipient of the 6th award recognizing our valued consultants.

Paul Weinberger Named MCG Resident of the Year

In an unprecedented milestone, Paul Weinberger was named the 2008 MCG Resident of the Year. Otolaryngology has never before had one of its members chosen to receive this prestigious award, and we are proud of Paul, who is very deserving. Paul also received the 2nd place prize in the 2008 Gyrus ACMI, ENT Division Resident Research Paper Prize competition.
Hail

Brent Metts
Medical College of Wisconsin
Endocrine Fellow

Jason McChesney
Geisinger Med. Ctr.
Laryngology Fellow

Troy Woodard
Loyola University
Rhinology Fellow

Carrie Bush
West Va. Univ.
PGY-1

Drew Prosser
Med. Coll. of GA
PGY-1

Farewell

Lana Jackson will join the faculty at MCG.

Neil Chheda will join the faculty at the U. of Miami.

Patricia Maeso will join the faculty at UTMB Galveston.

Adam Becker will pursue a fellowship in Rhinology at Stanford University.

William Moretz will join a group practice in Savannah, GA.

Where are They Now? Kenny Pang

Kenny Pang completed the Sleep Surgery fellowship at MCG in 2005, and quickly became the premier sleep surgeon in Singapore. In addition to developing two novel surgical procedures (the modified CAPSO and the expansion sphincter pharyngoplasty, both published in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery), Kenny hosted two internationally recognized sleep symposia with a total of 176 delegates (see photo).

Kenny says the fellowship experience provided intellectual stimulation that was both gratifying and confidence-building at the same time. He has since traveled extensively to Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Australia and China to conduct sleep surgery courses. We’re proud of Kenny and look forward to continued greatness to come.
Otolaryngology Research Center

The department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery opened a state-of-the-art Otolaryngology Research Center in December of 2007 to enhance faculty and resident research. The laboratory has all necessary equipment for immunohistochemistry, polymerase chain reaction, cell culture, acrylamide and agarose gel electrophoresis, Western blot, and various other basic molecular biology experiments. The Research Center is supported by a Laboratory Technician with over 20 years of experience in these techniques and will play an integral role in providing assistance and instruction in molecular biology techniques.

Publications


In our continuing efforts to provide the very best care possible to our patients, several of our staff met with patients as part of a commitment to Patient and Family Centered Care. A number of strengths and opportunities for improvement emerged, and we look forward to rolling up our sleeves to tackle these challenges. Special thanks go to Larry Burton, Jan Beasley, and Jay Beasley who are among our patient consultant team.

**MCG Health Named to Top 100 Hospitals®**

While we pride ourselves on the world-class clinical care that we provide, this of course would not be possible without the all-important supporting cast represented by our health system. It therefore brings us pride to know that MCG Health has been named to the list of the 2007 Thomson 100 Top Hospitals (formerly known as the Solucient 100 Top Hospitals). MCG Health is one of 15 major teaching hospitals – and the only one in Georgia to make the list. Thomson identifies the selected hospitals on the basis of eight criteria, which include risk-adjusted mortality, risk-adjusted complications, risk-adjusted patient safety and severity-adjusted average length of stay, among others.

**Staff Highlights**

In a homecoming of the most gratifying kind, Lisa Barnhill returns to the Department as a Research Coordinator. Lisa had previously worked as a Desk Operation Specialist in our practice site, while going to school at night and on weekends to earn her nursing degree. While we interviewed a large number of qualified candidates, Lisa emerged as the clear choice to assume responsibility for the numerous clinical trials in the department. She will report to Lori Burkhead, PhD, Director of Research for the Department. We are indebted to Mary Anne Park and her group in Surgical Research Services for providing invaluable bridging support during our recruitment of Lisa, allowing the Department research mission to continue uninterrupted.

Debra Anderson, RN, BS, Charge Nurse for otolaryngology in the Adult OR, recently earned the CNOR credential. Achieving a CNOR credential demonstrates proficiency in support of quality patient care and sets a standard of commitment to the profession of operating room nursing.

### Giving Opportunities

Designate Your Gift to MCG Otolaryngology

- Porubsky Library Fund ....................... $ _____
- Barton Otolaryngology Fund .............. $ _____
- Temporal Bone Lab Fund ................. $ _____
- Otolaryngology Research Fund ........ $ _____
- Area of Greatest Need ..................... $ _____
- Other: ________________________ $ _____

TOTAL ...........$ _____

- Check enclosed to MCG Foundation, Inc.
- CREDIT CARD please complete the following
  - _____MC  _____Visa  _____AE  _____Discover
  - Card # ____________________________ Exp. ______
  - Name on card: _______________________________
  - Signature Required: ___________________________
  - Full Name __________________________________
  - Address ___________________________________
  - City ____________________ State_______ Zip_____
  - Daytime Telephone ___________________________
  - Email Address _____________________________

Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

MCG fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30. For more information, call 706-721-6100 or visit www.mcg.edu/giving.
In our busiest year of CME offerings yet, we hosted fully six programs in the 2007 – 2008 academic year. Firsts for this year were a sold-out FEESST and FEES course and a Facial Plastic Symposium. Lori Burkhead demonstrated her teaching and leadership skills in hosting three world-class instructors and attracting over 40 participants to Augusta to learn the indications and techniques for FEESST and FEES. As part of Achih Chen’s program, Channel 12 news interviewed Jason Diamond (visiting professor and one of the stars of the hit TV series “Dr. 90210”). Among those volunteering for free treatment was our own Lana Jackson. The first ever transatlantic thyroid surgery was the major feature of another successful Thyroid/Parathyroid Symposium.

**Grand Rounds Update**

Our Grand Rounds program, chaired by Dr. Gregory Postma, this past year featured a virtual who’s who in Otolaryngology including, among others, Jesus Medina (President of the American Board of Otolaryngology), Patrick Brookhouser (Chair of the Residency Review Committee for Otolaryngology) and Bruce Gantz (Chair at the University of Iowa). On tap for 2008-2009 are C. Blake Simpson (University of Texas HSC at San Antonio), Michael Johns (Emory University), Douglas van Daele (University of Iowa), and William Shockley (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill).

**Dean’s Student Summer Research Fellowships**

Our department was awarded two of only 25 institution-wide competitive Dean’s Student Summer Research Fellowships this year. Medical students (typically in between 1st and 2nd year) apply for this prestigious grant awarded by the Dean’s office, in conjunction with a faculty advisor. These students have expressed an interest in pursuing Otolaryngology residencies, and both crafted very strong research proposals. The students and projects are:

**Lacey Adkins (MS-I)**  
Title: “Molecular Biology of False Negative PET-CT Scans”  
Mentor: David Terris MD

Phillip Robb (MS-I)  
Title: “Expression of p16 and PCNA in Respiratory Papillomatosis: Tissue Microarray-based Study”  
Mentor: Greg Postma MD

We congratulate these two outstanding first year medical students. They will start in June/July for a total of 8 weeks, and in addition to their research activities will participate as observers in the outpatient setting and operating room.
Otologic Implant Program

Under the very able leadership of Brian McKinnon, MD, MBA, the newly integrated otologic implant program is in full swing. While cochlear implants have long been a part of the cutting edge ear care provided at MCG, financial pressures required the health system to pause as it sought to determine a cost-responsible mechanism to continue to provide this important service.

With Dr. McKinnon’s guidance (and deriving from his expertise as an MBA degree-holder from Johns Hopkins) and with substantial work on both the revenue and expense side of the ledger, we are now performing not only cochlear implants, but bone-anchored hearing aids (BAHAs) and even middle ear implants (Vibrant Soundbridge, the only FDA-approved device available in the US). Brian has been successful in forging important relationships with industry to recover our ability to restore hearing to the deaf.

Audiology Services

In a natural evolution of our robust and expanding Otology-Neurotology program, agreement was recently reached with the Health System leadership to transfer responsibility for audiology services to the Department.

Dr. Brian McKinnon will assume responsibility for the day-to-day operations, management of our audiology team (Althea Grey, Amanda Curtis and Amy Johnson) and anticipates continued improvements in efficiency.

Three Fellowships Available for 2009-2010
Endocrine/Head and Neck Surgery (contact Dr. David Terris)
Rhinology/Sinus Surgery (contact Dr. Stil Kountakis)
Laryngology (contact Dr. Gregory Postma)
FEES and FEESST: A State-of-the-Art Symposium
October 3-4, 2008
Augusta, Georgia

**Distinguished Guest Faculty**

Dana M. Thompson, MD
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Stacy Wordell, MS, CCC-SLP
Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Jennifer Pace, MS, CCC-SLP
VAMC, Augusta, GA

Alyssa Aikman, MSP, CCC-SLP
Palmetto Health Richland, Columbia, SC

**Program Chair**

Lori M. Burkhead, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Medical College of Georgia

Register early. Participation in the Lab is limited.

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**Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery**
**Clinical Faculty and Areas of Interest**

David J. Terris, MD, *Chairman*
Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery

Stilianos Kountakis, MD, *Vice Chairman*
Rhinology and Sinus Surgery

Lori M. Burkhead, PhD, CCC-SLP
Speech Language Pathology

Achih H. Chen, MD
Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Subinoy Das, MD
Rhinology and Sinus Surgery

Frederick N. Klippert, MD
General Otolaryngology

Brian J. McKinnon, MD
Otology and Neurotology

Edward S. Porubsky, MD
General Otolaryngology

Gregory N. Postma, MD
Laryngology and Swallowing Disorders