Endocrine Surgery Continues Expansion

The ongoing growth of the GRU Thyroid Center will be facilitated by the new addition of a world-class surgeon. This fall, the department will welcome William Duke as its newest member.

Dr. Duke, a graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans, completed his Otolaryngology residency at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington. He served for a total of nearly four years as the Chief of Otolaryngology for the US Army in South Korea and at Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, where he was also chair of the hospital’s multidisciplinary thyroid committee.

After finishing his military career, Dr. Duke completed a fellowship in advanced head and neck endocrine surgery at GRU, where he participated in more than 400 endocrine surgeries. He is a member of the American Thyroid Association and the American Head and Neck Society, and is certified in head and neck ultrasound through the American College of Surgeons. He will provide comprehensive endocrine surgical care to adult and pediatric patients at the GRU Thyroid and Parathyroid Center.

Meet our Faculty (centerfold)

Phone Numbers and Web Site Address

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

To learn more about recent events in the department, visit:

gru.edu/otolaryngology
Faculty Highlights

Message from the Chair

Another new academic year is quickly approaching, and that means more change in Augusta. Our merger with Augusta State University has prompted the need for another (gasp!) name change. We are now Georgia Regents University (and hoping to stay that way for a while). More change comes in the form of endocrine surgery growth. We have been fortunate to recruit Will Duke to the Thyroid Center and endocrine team, further cementing the pre-eminence of the GRU Thyroid Center and allowing for continued expansion of surgical volumes, which have increased by an astonishing 800% over the past ten years. I know you will enjoy reading about these and other developments in the department in the pages that follow.

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

Faculty Honors

Jimmy Brown was appointed Senior Examiner for the American Board of Otolaryngology.

Paul Weinberger was a guest speaker at St. Luke’s pan-Philippines Biennial Otorhinolaryngology symposium and the Pan-ASEAN Otorhinolaryngology World Congress. He was also appointed to the Science Education Committee of the American Association for Cancer Research.

Lana Jackson received a GRU Exemplary Teaching award for resident education.

Greg Postma was guest speaker at the Asia-Pacific Laryngology and Dysphagia Conference and the New Zealand Academy of Otolaryngology annual meeting, and visiting professor at UTMB and the University of Cincinnati.

David Terris was a guest speaker at the University of Queensland meeting in Campitello, Italy, at Tulane University and at MD Anderson Cancer Center. He will be lecturing at the University of Virginia, UTMB and UMDNJ this month. He was also appointed to the AHNS Joint Council on Advanced Training, the AACE Endocrine Surgery Committee, and the ACS Executive Committee for Video Communication.

Consultant of the Year

Martin Salgueiro, DDS was the unanimous selection for the Department of Otolaryngology Consultant of the Year for 2013. Dr. Salgueiro is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, College of Dental Medicine, and was singled out because of his tremendous support for cancer patient care. He is a consistent participant in both the Tumor Board and Trauma Conference where his commitment to resident education is also evident.

Five Fellowships Available

Endocrine Surgery (contact Dr. David Terris: dterriss@gru.edu)
Rhinology/Sinus Surgery (contact Dr. Stil Kountakis: skountakis@gru.edu)
Laryngology (contact Dr. Gregory Postma: gpostma@gru.edu)
Facial Plastic Surgery (contact Dr. Achih Chen: achen@gru.edu)
Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery (contact Dr. Arturo Solares: csolares@gru.edu)
Drs. Hughes, Brown, and Groves recently teamed up to provide completely scar-less management of a submandibular gland problem in a 15 year old girl. She came to the Pediatric Otolaryngology office complaining of intermittent swelling and pain under the left side of her jaw during meals. She underwent a sialendoscopy, which is a minimally-invasive procedure using tiny cameras to diagnose blockages of saliva gland ducts by stones or strictures. A very large stone was seen deep in the submandibular gland duct, which was too large to remove completely with endoscopic tools. She therefore underwent a trans-oral excision of the left submandibular gland, which is an innovative approach to gland removal that avoids a neck incision and a permanent, visible scar. She has done very well after her surgery and remains symptom free.

Skull Base Tumors and Megatumors

- C. Arturo Solares, MD

The GRU Skull Base Surgery Team recently treated a 55 year old man with a 6 cm D2 glomus tumor (> 2cm of intracranial invasion) with multiple cranial nerve palsy. A modified transcochlear type A approach was utilized, providing ample exposure for a thorough resection (see preoperative and postoperative imaging). The defect (see surgical photograph) was reconstructed with an abdominal fat graft. The patient recovered exceptionally well and manifested no new neurologic sequelae. The surgical volumes (both endoscopic and open) at the GRU Skull Base Center have increased at a rapid pace and many more patients are benefitting from the unique expertise available here in Augusta.
Faculty Spotlight  
Spring 2013

Departmental Faculty and Areas of Interest

Jimmy Brown, DDS, MD  
Sleep/Head and Neck Surgery

Achih H. Chen, MD  
Facial Plastic Surgery

Scott S. DeRossi, DMD  
Oral Medicine

Michael W. Groves, MD  
General Otolaryngology

George F. Harris, IV, MD  
Pediatric Otolaryngology

C. Anthony Hughes, MD  
Pediatric Otolaryngology

Lana L. Jackson, MD  
Head and Neck Surgery

Stil Kountakis, MD, PhD  
Rhinology and Sinus Surgery

Sarah E. Mowry, MD  
Otology/Neurotology

William G. Pearson, Jr., PhD  
Cellular Biology and Anatomy

Edward Porubsky, MD  
General Otolaryngology

Gregory N. Postma, MD  
Laryngology

C. Arturo Solares, MD  
Skull Base Surgery

David J. Terris, MD  
Endocrine Surgery

John R. Vender, MD  
Neurosurgery

Paul M. Weinberger, MD  
Laryngology
Pediatric NP Comes Back Home

Brian Shirley has joined George Harris and Tony Hughes in the Pediatric Otolaryngology program. After completing his NP training at GRU several years ago, Brian worked in our Pediatric ICU for four years before being recruited to the Burn Center at Doctor’s Hospital. We are pleased to welcome him back to the University.

Audiologist Increases Capacity

Senior Audiologist Dr. Miranda Pritcher Ross will receive some much-needed help when Sarah King joins her staff this month. Dr. King recently completed her Au.D. degree and will hit the ground running when she arrives in Augusta.

New Face at the Front Desk

In an ever-changing electronic and technically-driven world, the front desk remains the enduring face of our practice and the best opportunity to make a great first impression. We are truly fortunate to have Cathy Burress and Terra Culliver anchoring this responsibility and are pleased to welcome Carlina Gonzalez to the team. Carlina joins us from patient accounting, and had expressed a specific desire to have direct patient care.

Asmann Selected for Nursing Specialty Award

Congratulations to Barbara Asmann who was recently singled out for recognition by the Special Projects Council. Her award for the category of Specialty Nursing was presented at the Third Annual Gala on May 11, 2013.

Otolaryngology Department Celebrates World Voice Day

- Paul M. Weinberger, MD

World Voice Day is celebrated every year in April in nearly 100 countries. The events are marked by singing and recognition of various personalities in the performing arts. This year our department elected to take a different route. Many individuals with laryngotracheal conditions are hardly able to breathe let alone communicate, and may have a tracheotomy tube in place. We honored several patients that have undergone multiple procedures to remove tracheotomy tubes with a reception at OddFellows Art Gallery in downtown Augusta.

Along with several local artists, these patients worked on various pieces (see photograph above) representing what their voice means to them and also enjoyed a gallery of laryngeal and tracheal “art work”. This included elaborate electron microscopic photographs (see photograph) artistically retouched by our own Dr. Paul Weinberger (the exhibition is entitled Tiny Worlds: Big Problems). All funds obtained from the sale of these pieces will go to the Center for Voice, Airway and Swallowing Disorders Foundation to promote research and scholarly activities.
Another Book and an Encyclopedia

David Terris teamed up with Paolo Miccoli (University of Pisa) to produce the first textbook devoted to the topic of complications of thyroid and parathyroid surgery. The book was published by Wiley (the largest medical publisher in the world) and an additional co-editor was Melanie Seybt (former resident and endocrine surgery fellow).

In another first, Dr. Kountakis assembled a star-studded cast of otolaryngology experts to put together an encyclopedia of otolaryngology. In addition to the five volume text shown in the photograph, readers may access the intellectual content online and enjoy a tremendous number of interactive features.

Selected Publications


Hail

Jose G. Gurrola, II
Rhinology Fellow

Rebecca J. Howell
Laryngology Fellow

Facial Plastics
Adam Becker will join a
private group in Raleigh, NC

Endocrine Surgery
William Duke will join
the faculty at GRU

Farewell

Christopher Johnson
Laryngology Fellow

Katrina Chaung
Endocrine Surgery Fellow

Rhinology
David Jang will join
the faculty at Duke

Laryngology
Nancy Solowski will join a
private group in Maryland

Daniel Carroll
PGY-1

Daniel Gerry
PGY-1

Carrie Bush will join the
faculty at University
of South Florida

Drew Prosser will do a
pediatric oto fellowship
at University of Cincinnati

Alumni – Ten Years of Academic Pollination

The number of former residents and fellows who have spent at least a portion of their career in academic medicine now exceeds 25. From Tamara Watts at UTMB to Troy Woodard at the Cleveland Clinic and Michael Singer at Henry Ford Hospital, the expertise acquired at GRU has been exported at an accelerating pace to institutions across the country.

To share your news with the other alumni, please send updates to Donna Black at donnab@gru.edu or call 706-721-6100.
Upcoming CME Programs

11th Annual Porubsky Symposium
June 14-15, 2013
Augusta, GA

Airway on the Island Meeting
August 1-3, 2013
Kiawah Island, SC

Temporal Bone Dissection Course
February 14-15, 2014
Augusta, GA

Endocrine Surgery Symposium
March 28-29, 2014
Augusta, GA

POSITION AVAILABLE
Georgia Regents University Augusta
Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery

A position is available at the Assistant or Associate Professor level in the Department of Otolaryngology

Head and Neck Surgeon
Fellowship Training Required
Interest in Reconstruction Preferred

To apply and receive additional information about the support associated with this opportunity, please send a curriculum vitae to:

David J. Terris, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Chairman
Dept. of Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery
1120 Fifteenth Street, BP-4109
Augusta, Georgia 30912-4060

or email: dterris@gru.edu

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