Chair’s Report

In my first message for 2009, I extend my very best wishes to our departmental faculty, our residents and students, our cherished alumni and to many of the voluntary supporters of our Department for a healthy and prosperous year. I am pleased to report that our Department continues to thrive and to receive acknowledgement for its academic and clinical activities. With our holiday celebrations now completed, we are in full swing once again with our teaching program and special projects for the spring.

I would like to acknowledge a number of honours that were recently received by members of our staff. I take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Lily Nguyen on becoming a McGill Faculty of Medicine Teaching Scholar at the graduation ceremony held on December 11, 2008. Lily was also instrumental in organizing a very successful workshop on Airway Management recently held at the McGill Simulation Centre. Our Department congratulates Dr. Sam Daniel as the recipient of several new grants. He, along with Dr. Luc Mongeau, received an important NIH grant, and Dr. Daniel himself was recently awarded the prestigious CFI-LOF as part of a select group of scientists from McGill University. This award was personally acknowledged by Principal Heather Munroe-Blum.

There are also a number of important activities that our Department will hold in the next few months. As part of our teaching program, Drs. Michael Hier and Jamie Rappaport will be supervising a special course at the McGill Simulation Centre entitled “Breaking Bad News.” Our annual McGill Otolaryngology Mid-Winter Update Course at Mont-Tremblant is scheduled for March 20-22. The course has an exciting academic program and a most impressive international faculty. Our Department congratulates the Mont-Tremblant course directors, Drs. Kost, Hier, and Rappaport, for all their efforts. Please consult our Department’s website for more detailed information if you are interested in attending.

Our visiting professors program included the Birkett Lecture, given by Dr. Clark Rosen, University of Pittsburgh, and the McNally Lecture, given by Dr. David Zee from Johns Hopkins. The next upcoming lectureship is the Annual Schloss Lecture to be given by Dr. Vito Forte, University of Toronto, on February 2, 2009.

The Department’s annual fundraising event, supporting head & neck cancer research and other Otolaryngology laboratories is scheduled for May 27 at the Montreal Science Centre. We are pleased to have as this year’s honouree Mr. Alain Thibault, Vice-President of TD Bank and CEO of Meloche Monnex. I encourage all our faculty and alumni to support this fundraising effort by attending the event and offering your donations. Please consult our website.

Dr. Saul Frenkel
Faculty News

Teaching Scholars Program

The graduation ceremony for the Teaching Scholars Program for Educators in the Health Sciences was held on December 11, 2008 in the McIntyre Building. The program, offered by the Faculty of Medicine’s Faculty Development Office, “is designed to encourage the professional development of basic science and clinical teachers at McGill.” Dr. Lily Nguyen was one of four Teaching Scholars recognized at the 2007-2008 ceremony.

AAMS Workshop

The first Advanced Airway Management Simulation Workshop was held on November 26, 2008 at the McGill Medical Simulation Center. The course director was Dr. Lily Nguyen, with course organizers ENT resident Dr. Keith Richardson and Dr. Francesco Ramadori (Department of Anesthesia). Dr. Nguyen’s summary of the event follows:

“It was attended by more than 45 residents and fellows from five different residency programs and was a resounding success. The workshop dealt with the different aspects of the difficult airway and involved cadaveric specimens, simulated case scenarios, and hands-on practice of various skills on airway mannequins.”

Grants & Awards

Dr. Sam Daniel and Professor Luc Mongeau (Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering) were awarded a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant (December 2008 – September 2011) for a project on “Design, construction, and evaluation of implants for vocal fold alteration and reconstruction.”

Dr. Sam Daniel has received research funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) through its Leaders Opportunity Fund (LOF) for a project entitled “Ototoxicity Research and Middle Ear Mechanics.”

Teaching

Dr. Michael Hier and Dr. Jamie Rappaport will be conducting a four-hour teaching session on “Breaking Bad News” for the Department’s residents on March 10, 2009. The course will use standardized patients at the McGill Simulation Centre.

Ski Meeting

The 13th Annual McGill University Update in Otolaryngology and Ski Weekend will take place March 20-22, 2009 at the Hotel Fairmont in Mont-Tremblant. This event allows participants to benefit from sessions in OTL as well as enjoy the recreational activities the resort has to offer. An ideal family event, the meeting has enjoyed much success in past years. For more information, including registration details, please visit the meeting’s website: http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/ent/skimeeting/
Temporal Bone Drilling Course

On December 1-3, 2008, the Department held a Temporal Bone Drilling Course, organized by Director Dr. Sam Daniel. Staff members that participated were Dr. Jamie Rappaport, Dr. Robert Shapiro, Dr. Robert Sweet, Dr. Leopold Tarantino, as well as pediatric fellow Dr. Fahad Al-Saab. Below is the program for the course:

**McGill Temporal Bone Drilling Course - 2008**

**Director**  SJ Daniel

**Faculty**  J Rappaport, I Saliba, R Shapiro, R Sweet, L Tarantino, F Al-Saab

**Participating Residents**  Dr. Mohammed Al-Essa, Dr. Yahya Al-Badaai, Dr. Valerie Côté, Dr. Nadine Yammine

**Location:** McGill Simulation Centre  
3572 Park Avenue ste 5640  
Montreal, Québec  
**Date/Time:** December 1 to 3, 2008  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Text**  OTOLOGIC SURGERY, edited by Brackmann, Skelton, and Arriaga (1994)  
TEMPORAL BONE SURGICAL DISSECTION MANUAL, by Nelson (1991)

(Two Bones Per Resident)

**Monday December 1 -**  
9:00 a.m.  **Topic:** Basic Mastoid

1:00 p.m.  **Topic:** Middle fossa Approach (bone #1)

**Tuesday December 2 –**  
9:00 a.m.  **Topic:** Facial Recess  Facial nerve decompression / endolymphatic sac (bone #1)

1:00 p.m.  **Topic:** Complete mastoid, labyrinthectomy, cochlear implant (bone #1)

**Wednesday December 3 –**  
9:00 a.m.  **Topic:** ossiculoplasty, tympanoplasty (bone #2)

1:00 p.m.  **Topic:** Complete mastoid  (bone #2)

**THIS BONE WILL BE JUDGED FOR THE TEMPORAL BONE AWARD**

There will be a written exam on Wednesday

At the end of the course each resident should label his or her bone #2. One resident will be eligible for the Temporal Bone Award announced at the Resident research day. The score is based on the temporal bone drilling (70% of the final mark is based on the feedback from instructors and quality of bone #2) and 30% on the written exam.
Annual Holiday Party

On December 3, 2008, the Department held its annual holiday party at Le Living Room on Paré Street. The department-wide event brought together medical staff, support staff, and residents for an evening of socializing, dining, and dancing.
Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Articles:


Multi-page Peer-reviewed Conference Proceeding:


Case Report:


Alumni Corner

Dr. Steven Sobol, Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, was featured on CNN in a segment on recurrent respiratory papillomatosis in children. An article and video can be found here: http://www.cnn.com/2008/HEALTH/12/22/hm.voice.box/

Congratulations to Dr. Samer Fakhri who was recently promoted to the rank of Associate Professor at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Department of Otorhinolaryngology.

Congratulations to Dr. Naznin Karsan and her husband Mahmood who welcomed a son named Ali on December 3, 2008.
Dr. Khaled Al-Noury, Vice Dean for Postgraduates and Research at King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia sends a photo of himself with Professor Heather Munroe-Blum, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University. The photo was taken on June 22, 2008 during Professor Munroe-Blum’s visit to Saudi Arabia for collaboration with Saudi universities.

Visiting Lecturers, Professorships

**Birkett Lectureship**

On December 4, 2008, the Department held its Annual Birkett Lectureship with guest lecturer Dr. Clark Rosen, Director of the University of Pittsburgh Voice Center and Associate Professor of Otolaryngology at the School of Medicine. Dr. Clark gave a talk on the topic of vocal cord injections, after which Dr. Saul Frenkkel presented him with a plaque commemorating the occasion. Dr. Clark also presented a talk entitled “12 Steps to Improved Phonomicrosurgery” at a resident training session the following day. Below is a group photo, taken at the Lectureship:
The Department’s 6th Annual Melvin D. Schloss Pediatric Lecture will take place on February 2, 2009. This year’s guest lecturer is Dr. Vito Forte, Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology at Toronto’s Hospital for Sick Children, who will be presenting a talk on “Surgical Management of Thyroid Diseases in Children.” Dr. Forte’s talk will be followed by a Pediatric Otolaryngology Research & Clinical Day at the Montreal Children’s Hospital. The full program can be found on our website: http://www.mcgill.ca/ent/events/
Friends of the Department

The Department wishes to thank Mrs. Judy Mendelsohn and Mr. Norman Zavalkoff for their respective, generous donations to the Temporal Bone Drilling Laboratory honouring the memory of Dr. Melvin Mendelsohn. Mr. Zavalkoff’s donation represents an endowment for the presentation of the annual Mendelsohn Temporal Bone Drilling Award.

Head and Neck Cancer Fundraiser

The McGill Head and Neck annual fundraiser will take place on May 27, 2009 with honouree M. Alain Thibault, President and CEO of Meloche Monnex. Inquiries about the fundraiser and donations to the Head and Neck Cancer Fund can be directed to Carole Goldberg at cgoldber@ent.jgh.mcgill.ca or 514-340-8222 ext. 5024. Website: http://www.mcgill.ca/ent/headandneckfund/

Upcoming Events

- February 2    Annual Melvin D. Schloss Pediatric Lectureship
- March 20-22   Mont-Tremblant Update in OTL course
- April 30      Annual Raymer Lectureship
- May 7         Resident Research Day / Annual James D. Baxter Lectureship
- May 10-13     CSO-HNS Annual Meeting – Halifax, NS
- May 27        Head & Neck Fundraiser gala

Help Name our Newsletter

We are still accepting name suggestions for our newsletter. Send in your suggestions and be eligible to win a special prize. Send your suggestions to Joanna Aroutian at jaroutian@jgh.mcgill.ca.

Keep in Touch

If any staff, residents, or alumni have newsworthy items, please convey the information to Joanna Aroutian (jaroutian@jgh.mcgill.ca). Items could include honours and awards, research grants, presentations, publications. And, we would also be interested in hearing about events in your personal life.