Chair’s Report

This has been an exciting several months for our Department. I would like to report on a number of significant events that recently took place.

Dr. Melvin Schloss resigned his position as Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology after serving for 32 years. During his tenure, Dr. Schloss influenced many students, residents, and fellows. He was responsible for the development of a pediatric program that achieved an international reputation. His recruited GFT-H staff were all residents within our program and who then proceeded to complete fellowship training in pediatrics at top-notch universities. This was the result of the mentoring that they received from Dr. Schloss. Furthermore, Dr. Melvin Schloss influenced the careers of other residents who proceeded to flourish in their own pediatric otolaryngology careers and now hold important leadership positions in university departments across North America. Our McGill Department extends its thanks and sincere appreciation to Dr. Melvin Schloss for his important contributions to McGill University and to academic otolaryngology.

We also take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Sam Daniel who was chosen as the new Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology. In his short academic career to date, Sam has made a significant impact, both locally and nationally, as a clinician-scientist. The McGill Auditory Sciences Laboratory, which he started upon his arrival at McGill in 2003, has achieved an international reputation for its important research in the field of childhood deafness. Our Department welcomes Dr. Sam Daniel as our new leader in Pediatric Otolaryngology.

A second significant event for our Department occurred on October 30, 2008 with the inauguration of the Mendelsohn Temporal Bone Drilling Laboratory. Dr. Melvin Mendelsohn was a cherished member of our university Department up to his untimely passing in the year 2002. He was an acknowledged otologist who taught many residents both the art and science of middle-ear surgery. He had a nonchalant personality that was most endearing to all those around him. It is a befitting tribute that our Department proceeded to name this important teaching facility after him. As well, on an annual basis, our department will continue to confer the Temporal Bone Drilling Award, which is also named in memory of Dr. Melvin Mendelsohn.

Finally, I would like to commend the Department’s Head and Neck Oncology service for their prominence at this year’s AAO-HNS convention in Chicago. Our Department was cited at this meeting for the quality and number of its podium presentations on thyroid cancer surgery. It should be mentioned that not only otolaryngology residents were podium presenters but, also, a number of medical students were selected for their work as speakers to an international audience. Our Department congratulates Dr. Richard Payne, in particular, and the rest of the Head and Neck team for fostering the thyroid research program at McGill University. Our Department also acknowledges the successful Academy course given by Dr. Karen Kost on the topic of percutaneous tracheostomies.
**Announcement**

Dr. Sam Daniel has been appointed director of Pediatric Otolaryngology at the Montreal Children’s Hospital effective November 3, 2008. He replaces Dr. Melvin Schloss who stepped down from this position, having served a mandate of 32 years. The Department congratulates both Dr. Sam Daniel and Dr. Melvin Schloss.

**Faculty News**

**New Medical Treatment**

Dr. Sam Daniel has successfully treated a patient with paralyzed vocal cords with Botox, a first in Quebec. An article about the procedure appeared in *La Presse* on October 22, 2008.

Below is the link to the *La Presse* article:


**New Website**

Our Department has a new website that better reflects our involvement as a unit within the McGill University community and that will provide up-to-date information about the Department of Otolaryngology, including news about upcoming events. The address of the new site is:

[www.mcgill.ca/ent](http://www.mcgill.ca/ent)

We are still transitioning from our old website ([www.ent.mcgill.ca](http://www.ent.mcgill.ca)), which will still be available until all its content is migrated to the new site.

**Inauguration of New Laboratory**

On October 30, the department held a dedication ceremony to name its new Temporal Bone Drilling Laboratory in honour of the late Dr. Melvin Mendelsohn. Drs. Saul Frenkkel, Ted Tewfik, and Sam Daniel addressed the audience of ENT personnel with the history and future of the laboratory as well as with recollections of their personal experiences working alongside Dr. Mendelsohn. Also present at the inauguration were Dr. Mendelsohn’s wife, Judy, and children, Allen, Susan, Howard, and Jane, to whom Dr. Frenkkel presented an inaugural plaque (see photo, above), a copy of which will also hang in the department. At the end of the ceremony and grand rounds, attendees were invited to partake in Dr. Mendelsohn’s favourite drink, Scotch.
Below are pictures from the ceremony:

Saul Frenkel addressing the audience

The dedication of the Melvin Mendelsohn Temporal Bone Drilling Laboratory

Saul Frenkel presenting Judy Mendelsohn the inaugural plaque

Ted Tewfik, Sam Daniel, Saul Frenkel with Dr. Mendelsohn's family: Judy, Allen, Susan, Howard, Jane
On November 5, the Department held a conference entitled, “Bone Anchored Hearing Aids in 2008.” Organized by Dr. Sam Daniel, the conference served as an update on the status of BAHA surgery in Canada and as a venue for interaction among participants. The honoured speaker at the conference was Dr. Melvin Schloss. The conference schedule is below:

**Bone Anchored Hearing Aids in 2008**

*An update*

*Wednesday November 5th 2008*

**Conference objectives:**
- To review the status of BAHA surgery in Canada with regards to:
  - Audiological candidacy
  - Surgical techniques and pearls
  - Soft tissue management
  - Operative and post-operative complications
- To provide a platform for BAHA surgeons, audiologists, and researchers to connect and develop collaborations and future research projects

**Target audience:**
Otolaryngologists and audiologists

**Location:**
Montreal Children’s Hospital, Main Amphitheater

**Conference Organizer:**
Dr Sam J Daniel

**Honoured Speaker:**
Dr Melvin D. Schloss, First Audio-implant in Canada

**Program:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:25 -</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Welcome – Dr Saul Frenkiel, Chair McGill University Otolaryngology</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 -</td>
<td>Hearing assistive devices, past, present, and future – Dr Melvin D Schloss</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 -</td>
<td>Pediatric BAHA in 2008 – Dr Blake Papsin</td>
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<td>11:15 -</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 -</td>
<td>BAHA audiological candidacy – Louise Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 -</td>
<td>Localisation with BAHA, research set-up &amp; preliminary data – Dr Tony Leroux</td>
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<td>13:00 -</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:15 -</td>
<td>The ingredients to a successful BAHA program - Dr Blake Papsin</td>
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<td>14:45 -</td>
<td>BAHA audiological update – Bill Hodgetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:15 -</td>
<td>BAHA audiological panel – Martine Brazeau, Mark Gulliver, Bill Hodgetts, Louise Miller</td>
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<td>16:00 -</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:15 -</td>
<td>BAHA surgical panel – S Daniel, JJ Dufour, L Lessard, I Saliba, B Papsin</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:00 -</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:15 -</td>
<td>Soft tissue management and post-operative complications – L Lessard</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00 -</td>
<td>Conclusion &amp; wrap-up</td>
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AAO-HNS

Our department participated at the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation’s 112th Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO, which was held in Chicago on September 21-24, 2008. Representing our department were staff, residents, and medical students, who, combined, gave a total of eight talks and one course, which are listed below.

- “Outcome of Endoscopic Sinus Surgery for Chronic Rhinosinusitis Patients: A Canadian Experience”
  Y Al-Badaai, M Samaha

- “Defining Success of Parathyroidectomy in Hyperparathyroidism”
  Y Dolev, R J Payne

- "Bilateral Papillary Thyroid Cancer and Associated Histopathological Findings"
  E Hwang, R J Payne

- “Thyroid Gland Management in Total Laryngectomy: Meta-analysis and Surgical Recommendations”
  A A Mendelson, T Al-Khatib, M Julien, R J Payne, M J Black, M P Hier

- "Fine-Needle Aspiration Biopsies in the Management of Indeterminate Follicular and Hurthle Cell Thyroid Lesions"
  T Mijovic, R J Payne

- “Incidence of Micropapillary Carcinoma in Total Thyroidectomy”
  M N Pakdaman, R J Payne

- "Micropapillary Thyroid Carcinoma and Hashimoto’s Thyroiditis"
  M N Pakdaman, R J Payne

- "Female Gender as a Risk Factor for Post-Thyroidectomy Hypocalcemia"
  N Sands, R J Payne

The following course was also given:

- “Endoscopic Percutaneous Tracheotomy: Indications & Technique”
  K Kost
Visiting Lecturers, Professorships

Birkett Lectureship

The Birkett Lectureship has been rescheduled for December 4, 2008. The lecturer will be Dr. Clark Rosen, Director of the University of Pittsburgh Voice Center and Associate Professor of Otolaryngology at the School of Medicine. The topic of Dr. Rosen’s talk will be “Vocal Fold Injection 2008.”

McNally Lectureship

On November 6, the Department welcomed Dr. David Zee, Professor of Neurology at John Hopkins University, as the invited speaker for its 12th Annual William J. McNally Memorial Lecture. Dr. Zee’s talk was entitled “Disorders of the cerebellum: clues as to how the brain controls the vestibuloocular reflex.” Following the lecture, Dr. Saul Frenkel presented Dr. Zee, on behalf of the Department, with a plaque commemorating the event as well as a neck tie that marks the Department’s centenary, which was celebrated in 2005.

Below are the announcement for the talk as well as some photos from the event.
Alumni Corner

Update

Dr. Beth Rhodes Duncan is working on an MBA in healthcare administration and writes of a project she is undertaking:

“I am working on a project that involves remotely monitored intensive and critical care units and I thought something like that could benefit the people in the Northwest Territories. Patients’ vital physiologic data along with visuals is sent from the rural site to the remotely located intensivist and immediate management is thereby made possible in real-time consultation with the staff taking care of the patient. The technology we are using here is called VISICU.”

Dr. Rhodes can be reached at bemi02@comcast.net.

Residents and Fellows

Dr. Hadi Hakami and Dr. Fahad Al-Saab have joined our department as new fellows for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Dr. Yaser Al-Rajhi and his wife Reem welcomed a new son, Malik, on October 25, 2008 at 9:30 pm at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

Dr. Fahad Al-Saab and his wife Reem welcomed a baby girl named Jawhara on September 22, 2008.
Head and Neck Cancer Fund

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.

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.