



Facial Plastic Surgery At Carolina: Spotlight on Reconstruction



Elaine Hinkle, RN and William Shockley, MD

This edition of Heads Up will provide an update on the Facial Plastic Surgery Program at UNC. We caught up with Dr. Shockley and had him make a few comments about the program and where it stands in 2011. "I woke up one day and I was a Facial Plastic Surgeon" said Shockley. "Well, it didn't happen over night but there has been a major transition over the past several years. As most people know I came here as a Head and Neck Cancer Surgeon. I've always had an interest in skin cancer and reconstruction of facial defects. There has been an evolution of my practice that has paralleled the growth

of our Facial Plastic Surgery Program. It started with taking care of patients with skin cancer, Mohs defects, traumatic nasal and facial deformities, and patients with disfigurement from facial paralysis. As my interest and experience grew, the resident exposure and training grew along with it."

The success of any clinical endeavor is based on outstanding patient care. One of the primary reasons for the growth of our Facial Plastic Surgery Clinic is that we have one of the most outstanding nurses in the country in Elaine Hinkle, RN. "Elaine is an absolutely invaluable asset. She is someone with tremendous experience, expertise and compassion. Over the years she has managed hundreds of patient problems, phone calls, concerns and questions. It's this personal touch that has allowed us to build our reputation for excellence in patient care," said Dr. Shockley. Elaine has worked with Dr. Shockley for over 16 years. Everyone in the department and every resident that has trained here knows that Elaine is the heart and soul of the ENT Clinic. We are extremely grateful for her years of service and Dr. Shockley considers her an irreplaceable colleague and friend. "Elaine is an amazing person.

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SOFT TISSUE COURSE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

Joshua Surowitz, MD

Teaching the next generation of physicians is a guiding principle of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery. For twenty years resident physicians and attendings from our department have been teaching the principles of soft tissue repair, suture technique, and surgical knot tying to third year medical students as they begin their surgical clerkship. Dr Shockley has been the Course Director since its inception and virtually every attending has been involved with the course at one time or another. We consider it a great opportunity to teach proper suture and soft tissue repair technique to the next generation of budding surgeons. It is a simple recipe really; take approximately thirty medical students, a team of OHNS residents, suture material, needle drivers, a bucket full of pig's feet (usually from Dr. Stadler's lunch box), and the most critical component... Esau Felton (UNC OR tech), then mix for two hours. Voila – aspiring surgeons to be!



Baishakhi Choudhury, MD assists medical students at a Soft Tissue Course

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of our Department's involvement. The OHNS medical student soft tissue course routinely gets high marks from class after class of third year medical students. It is a labor of love and an honor to be involved.

TISSUE ENGINEERING: COLLABORATIVE EFFORT AT UNC

By John Dahl, MD, PhD, MBA



John Dahl, MD, PhD, MBA

of Plastic Surgery, at the UNC School of Medicine was established. The primary force behind this collaboration was Dr. John Dahl who, at the time, was an Intern in the Otolaryngology Residency Training Program at UNC.

Drs. Shockley and van Aalst share an interest and expertise in reconstructing external ear malformations in patients with a condition called microtia. Children with this condition are born with a small, abnormally shaped external ear, which causes both functional and cosmetic deficits. In addition, the current surgical techniques used to reconstruct the external ears of patients with microtia have several limitations as well as potentially serious complications. Therefore, the focus of this research effort was to develop a tissue

In the fall of 2009 a new research collaboration between Drs. William W. Shockley, Director of the Division of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, and Dr. John A. van Aalst, Director of Pediatric Plastic Surgery in the Division

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 Craig A. Buchman, MD, FACS, Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs
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 Alisha N. West, MD, Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellow

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 Esa A. Bloedon, MD, Assistant Professor
 Allen F. Marshall, MD, Assistant Professor

As you can see our Heads Up publication has undergone an evolution with the addition of Nicolette DeGroot as our Creative Director. We have really appreciated a long tenure of Elizabeth Perry in her position as the Editorial Assistant for our entire department. With Nicolette's arrival, we hope to continue that tradition and further enhance the department's capacity to communicate with the medical community both in North Carolina as well as the entire nation.

Our Spring issue focuses on facial plastic surgery from both a functional and aesthetic point of view, and emphasizes the collaboration of many departments in developing the best in education, research, and patient care that we can hope to attain. We are also glad to welcome Dr. Brad Merritt to the Department of Dermatology as a Mohs surgeon. Brad will be working intimately with us in the extirpation and reconstruction of skin cancers from our patients.



Harold C. Pillsbury, MD

I hope you enjoy this issue of Heads Up, especially considering the outreach that we do in our department which has become a mainstay of our research and patient care efforts.

Current Residents

Mitchell R. Gore, MD, PhD
 Paula J. Harmon, MD
 Michael E. Stadler, MD
 Deidra A. Blanks, MD
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 Joshua B. Surowitz, MD
 Maher N. Younes, MD
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 Anna Hang, MD
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Training in Facial Plastic Surgery is a critical component of the curriculum for residents in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery. In fact, Facial Plastic Surgery questions account for 25 percent of those on the Oral Board Examination. It only makes sense that residents in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery need to understand facial anatomy, wound healing, care of facial injuries, management of facial fractures, problems related to nasal obstruction and altered nasal anatomy.



Madison Clark, MD

The curriculum includes two conferences a month devoted to facial plastic surgery. This is divided between lectures and reviewing chapters in a textbook on facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. Throughout the year we have multiple lectures by those outside of the department. Dr. van Aalst, Dr. Damitz, and Dr. Hultman are Plastic Surgeons at UNC and have all provided many outstanding lectures. “Dr. Madison

Clark, a Facial Plastic Surgeon at Alamance Regional Medical Center, has been a wonderful mentor and instructor. Madison always gives a thoughtful, well-organized lecture filled with lots of pearls. The residents look forward to his discussions and always walk away with a tremendous amount of practical information,” relates Dr. Shockley. In addition, we have had many other Facial Plastic Surgeons involved including Dr. Brian Downs, Dr. Charlie Finn, Dr. Cynthia Gregg and Dr. Jeff Kilpatrick. “We are blessed to have a multitude of people with a special expertise that can provide their experience and perspectives on topics relating to facial plastic surgery”.

This year there was also a Facial Plastic Surgery Review Course that was held at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. This was headed by Dr. Neal Goldman and was geared totally toward resident training in Facial Plastic Surgery with multiple lectures as well as anatomic dissections. Dr. Shockley presented a lecture on Basic Concepts in Rhinoplasty while Dr. Damitz presented discussions on Blepharoplasty and Brow Lift Procedures. 

PLASTICS *continued from cover*

No matter how stressful the situation, no matter how busy we are, Elaine always has a smile for everyone. It’s no wonder that she is so loved and respected by our patients. I can’t tell you how lucky I feel that she has been by my side over the years.”

Today the Facial Plastic Surgery Program cares for patients with a wide variety of problems. This article will highlight three areas where there has been significant growth.

Functional Nasal Surgery

Many patients present with nasal obstruction. Of course this complaint is one commonly seen in general otolaryngology. ENT physicians recognize that there are often many other symptoms associated with nasal obstruction such as mouth breathing, mouth and throat dryness, exercise intolerance, snoring, difficulty sleeping and even obstructive sleep apnea. Patients seen in the Facial Plastic Surgery Clinic typically have these associated problems as well as difficult anatomic features. That is why they are referred to UNC. This includes patients who have significant traumatic nasoseptal deformities, prior nasal surgery, saddle nose deformities, nasal valve problems, and patients who have a congenital or developmental nasal deformity. “There is a wonderful collaborative environment at UNC,” said Shockley “and it’s easy to obtain help from colleagues in Rhinology, Pediatric Otolaryngology, and Plastic Surgery.” Over the past few years there has been significant growth in referrals for traumatic nasal deformities as well as nasal valve repair. These patients have unique problems and the treatment has to be tailored to each patient. Many of these patients have had prior nasal surgery and require aesthetic refinements at the time of their functional repair. Dr Shockley performs 12-15 nasal surgeries per month.

Skin Cancer and Mohs Defects

Dr. Shockley has always had an interest in the management of patients with skin cancer and the reconstruction that is often involved. We are lucky to have a new addition in the Department of Dermatology. With the retirement of Dr. Robert Tomsick, Dr. Brad Merritt recently joined the Department as a Mohs surgeon. He completed his Dermatology Residency at UNC and then completed a fellowship at one of the most highly regarded programs for Mohs surgery in the country, training with Dr. Zitelli and Dr. Brodland in Pittsburgh. Shockley comments, “Brad has been a tremendous asset. UNC is really lucky to have someone of his caliber.



Brad Merritt, MD

Not only is he someone with supreme technical proficiency but he always has the patient’s best interest at heart”. Dr. Shockley and Dr. Merritt recently had a patient with extensive recurrent melanoma in situ and Dr. Merritt spent almost the entire day performing Mohs surgery and was eventually able to get negative margins. Dr. Shockley then performed a reconstructive procedure the following day which entailed a large cervicofacial flap. The Facial Plastic Surgery Clinic also recently saw a patient with Merkel cell carcinoma. He was referred by Dr. Kim Jones. Thanks to the cancer coordinators and the Head and Neck Tumor Board, the patient was seen quickly, treated expeditiously, completed his surgery and is now completing his postoperative radiation. “It is so critical to have access to the multidisciplinary Head and Neck Tumor Board, where patients with unusual cancers like this can be discussed. We can take advantage of all the expertise in the room.”

Microtia


Dr. Shockley and Dr Zdanski have had a significant interest in the treatment of children with microtia, small undeveloped or underdeveloped ears.



Congenital grade 3 microtia (left). Postop result after four-stage procedure using rib cartilage(right).

Before considering reconstruction, the child has a complete atresia and hearing evaluation by our outstanding colleagues in Otolaryngology and Audiology. Using the team approach, several patients have undergone reconstructive procedures with good success. This has been a rewarding experience for patients and families. In addition, it has allowed our ENT Residents to have exposure to these types of cases, along with our Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellow. “Our outcomes have been very good but Dr. Zdanski and I are always trying to find techniques that will further enhance our results,” says Shockley. We want to also recognize Dr. John van Aalst and Dr. Earl Gage, our Pediatric Plastic Surgeons at UNC, who also see patients with microtia.

The Facial Plastic Surgery Program at UNC sees a broad range of patients. We see patients with functional nasal problems, benign and malignant skin and soft tissue tumors, hemangiomas and vascular malformations, facial paralysis, and post-traumatic nasal and facial deformities.

We also see patients seeking cosmetic surgery and rhinoplasty. We are very proud to be a major referral center for the Southeast and are grateful for the support we receive from our referring physicians. 



A Medical Student sutures a pig's foot during a Soft Tissue course

engineered cartilage implant that could improve the surgical techniques used in microtia reconstruction.

Dr. Dahl's interest in participating in this research project stems from his experience in medical school: "As a medical student at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, I had a great mentor who is a Facial Plastic Surgeon; this led to my interest in reconstructive surgery. When I arrived at UNC and began looking for a project to complete during my PGY2 research rotation, I decided to pursue a project that would allow me to learn more about this area of Otolaryngology."

As part of this collaborative effort, Dr. Dahl submitted an application to the American Academy of Otolaryngology: Head and Neck Surgery Foundation Centralized Otolaryngology Research Efforts (CORE) grants program. The project entitled "Flexible Cartilage in Microtia Repair: Umbilical Cord Stem Cells On Nano-Implant" was selected to receive one of the CORE program's Resident Research Awards.

"I am very lucky to have the opportunity to work with two outstanding mentors in Drs. Shockley and van Aalst. Dr. Shockley has a wealth of knowledge regarding facial reconstructive surgery and this expertise was invaluable when critically thinking about our experiments as well as carefully reviewing the data we generated. Dr. van Aalst, with his clinical expertise in Craniofacial Plastic Surgery as well as his basic science knowledge in tissue engineering, was able to translate

these ideas into a series of experiments designed to lay the groundwork for the development of a tissue engineered cartilage implant for use in microtia reconstruction" says Dr. Dahl regarding the opportunity to work with Drs. Shockley and van Aalst.

During the summer and fall of 2010, Dr. Dahl spent his research block working in Dr. van Aalst's laboratory. With assistance from Dr. Montserrat Caballero and Andrew Pappa, Dr. van Aalst's full-time laboratory staff, Dr. Dahl was able to complete the experiments outlined in the CORE grant proposal. One focus of this work is to characterize the biochemical and biomechanical properties of human ear cartilage. To this end, cartilage samples from adult and pediatric patients were collected and analyzed. The research team hopes that data such as these will guide the development of a tissue engineered cartilage implant that has the same properties as natural ear cartilage. In addition, Dr. Dahl's results suggest human umbilical cord stem cells have the ability to differentiate into rudimentary cartilage while grown on a nanofiber matrix *in vitro*. The team is now working to optimize the conditions for growing umbilical cord stem cell derived cartilage in tissue culture, as well as to identify growth factors important for regulating this process.

This collaboration has been quite successful as measured by the numerous presentations Dr. Dahl has been selected to make at national and regional scientific meetings including; the annual meetings of the North Carolina Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Society, the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association, and the South Carolina-North Carolina Societies of

Otolaryngology. The team has submitted additional abstracts for both Otolaryngology and Plastic Surgery meetings and has one manuscript currently undergoing peer review.

According to Dr. van Aalst, "collaboration really is the bedrock of success both clinically and in research. As the art and practice of medicine becomes more complex, collaboration is needed for improved patient outcomes; with regard to research, in order to make significant breakthroughs, we need to find partners who can do what we cannot. In research, the goal is to find good people, develop a healthy give-and-take relationship that is beneficial to all involved, and then to work hard together. This collaboration fits all the above requirements."

"Dr. Dahl had the interest and Dr. van Aalst had the laboratory facilities to make this project work. I offered my clinical perspective but the translational research was carried out by Dr. Dahl, Dr. van Aalst and his staff. It's a tremendously exciting concept and the initial results are encouraging. Our department is indebted to Dr. van Aalst in offering this opportunity for collaboration" remarked Dr. Shockley.

The success and productivity of the collaboration between Drs. van Aalst, Shockley, and Dahl has lead to additional cross-departmental projects including one between Dr. Carlton Zdanski and Dr. van Aalst looking at cartilage tissue engineering for pediatric airway reconstruction. According to Dr. Dahl "the early results from our collaboration with Dr. van Aalst are very promising, we hope to continue this work with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of children born with microtia".



John Dahl, MD, PhD, MBA examines tissue histology in the lab

“WINGS OF AHEC” HELP FACULTY REACH TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE STATE

By Austin Rose, MD

One of the Department’s core missions is education, not only of fellows, residents and medical students, but also for the greater medical community across our state. With a similar dedication to improving the health of North Carolinians, the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program seeks to provide educational opportunities in partnership with academic institutions such as ours.



Austin Rose, MD

Known as the “wings of AHEC”, AHEC’s Medical Air Operations helps tremendously in this regard. In the past year, Drs. Pillsbury, Rose and Buckmire have all used the Medical Air system to

deliver talks at locations throughout the state. On November 2, 2010, for example, Dr. Rose flew from Chapel Hill to Wilmington in time for Pediatric Grand Rounds that morning where he spoke on “The Pediatric Airway”. Both he and Dr. Charles Ebert will be returning in June of this year for a combined lecture on the surgical treatment of pediatric sinusitis.

“It’s an amazing service”, said Dr. Rose. “I was able to give Pediatric Grand Rounds at New Hanover Regional Medical Center at 7:30 a.m. and be back in my clinic here at UNC seeing patients by 10 a.m.! We really appreciate their help.”

Since its founding in 1968, AHEC’s Medical Air Operations has transported health science faculty, medical residents, students and university officials to all areas of the state for both educational and clinical activities. Their fleet of six twin-engine aircraft is based at UNC-Chapel Hill’s Horace Williams Airport, though an eventual move to Raleigh-Durham Airport (RDU) is currently anticipated. In 2009-2010, Medical Air’s five full-time professional pilots logged more than 427,000 passenger miles, transporting 1,728 passengers to more than 75 destinations. Approximately 19 million passenger miles have been logged since 1978.



Betty H. Cameron Women’s & Children’s Hospital, Wilmington, NC

With 500 miles separating our coast and mountains, Medical Air Operations plays a key role in maintaining the close partnership between our university medical centers and communities around the state. Like our Department, they are very proud of their contributions to both medical education and health care access here in North Carolina.



CHANGES AT UNC-CHAPEL HILL ACC

Update provided by Trevor Hackman, MD

The Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC), is not the same old Ambulatory Care Center (ACC). Beyond the name change, the Ambulatory Surgery Center has also expanded its role in patient care. While in the past, the Ambulatory Care Center allowed for convenient high-quality outpatient operative and clinic care, the need for hospital expansion has transformed this outpatient center. Now the ASC offers a completely free-standing surgical center with a fully functioning 23-hour observation unit and newly-renovated operating rooms.

The Department of Otolaryngology has embraced this newest UNC Health System development, and plans to maximize patient care through the ASC starting this Spring. The new facilities will allow our department to offer the same high-quality university-level outpatient surgical care with the convenience of a surgicenter. The expansion to a 23-hour facility qualifies more patients as ASC candidates. Patients previously diverted to the main O.R. due to potential concerns for post-operative 23-hour monitoring or complications, such as urinary retention, can now be offered a more convenient surgical experience at the ASC.

What will be done at the ASC?

- 1) Outpatient procedures (except difficult airways) – current standard Sinus surgery, Ear Surgery, laryngoscopy, pediatric procedures, general, etc.
- 2) 23-hour observation cases – new addition Thyroidectomy, Parathyroidectomy, Parotidectomy
- 3) Those at risk for postoperative complications – new addition: Urinary retention, desaturation, nausea, poor oral intake, elderly

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| • HASSLE-FREE PARKING | • PROMPT SERVICE |
| • NO LONG LINES | • EFFICIENT CARE |
| • EASY ACCESS | • SHORTER OR TURN-OVER TIMES |
| • SHORT WALKS | • PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE |
| • CONVENIENT CHECK-IN | • SHORTER CHECK-IN |

All the above can now be offered with the convenience of the ASC. And convenience is a big part of the ASC experience.

The short-stay unit is a newly designed facility with skilled staff in a pleasant, non-hospital atmosphere. Otherwise healthy patients can now receive the same high-quality care away from the masses of sick patients at the main campus.

The Department of Otolaryngology welcomes you to the new ASC and we encourage patients to ask if the ASC is right for them.

BIG SPLASH IN THE DESERT

Contributed by William Shockley, MD and Kibwei McKinney, MD

The Department was highly visible at the Combined Sections Meeting of the Triological Society in Scottsdale, Arizona which took place January 27-29, 2011. Dr. William Shockley is currently the Vice President of the Southern Section. Dr. Harold Pillsbury was in attendance as an esteemed guest of honor. Dr. Shockley presented Citations to Dr. Richard Holt, Dr. Stephen Park, Dr. Fred Stucker and Dr. Mark Weissler. Dr. Adam M. Zanation gave an invited lecture on the endoscopic resection of nasal tumors and Dr. Brent Senior moderated a session.



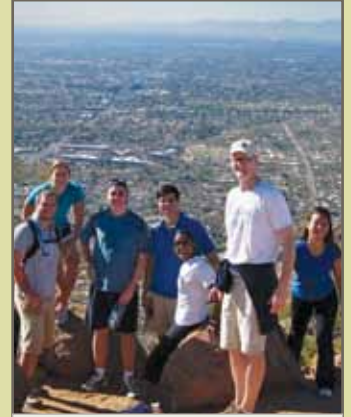
Kibwei McKinney, MD and Adam Zanation, MD

Dr. Kibwei McKinney was awarded first prize in the Scientific Poster Session in the area of Head and Neck Surgery. Adam Zanation was the senior author on the poster entitled, "Facial Nerve and Mimetic Muscle Transposition as a Adjunct to Skull Base Surgery." Dr. Mihir Patel won the John E. Bordley Resident Research Award in the Southern Section with a paper entitled "Putative Markers for Characterization of Follicular Thyroid Neoplasms from Fine Needle Aspirates." His co-investigators were Dr. Stadler, Allison Deal MS, and Drs. Kim, Shores and Zanation.

Dr. Shockley was a presenter and moderator for the panel on "The Nasal Valve and Functional Rhinoplasty" while Dr. Brent Senior was also a presenter and moderator on the panel "Management of Nasal Allergy

and Its Manifestations". Dr. Pillsbury presented his update on "Man Power Issues in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery". Dr. Adam Zanation participated in the highly popular "How I Do It Video Session". His presentation was entitled "Endoscopic Resections of Juvenile Nasal Angiofibromas". Dr. Grace Kim had a poster presentation on "Extensive Multifocal Rosai-Dorfman Disease Involving the Central Nervous System and Paranasal Sinuses," co-authored by Drs Friedel, Jyung, Eloy, and Liu. Dr. Rupali Shah presented a poster with Dr. Adam Zanation entitled "The First Report of Basilar Invagination and Brain Stem Compression as a Complication of Head and Neck Radiation: Options for Treatment and Techniques for Endonasal Clivectomy and Odontectomy." And finally, Dr. Jessica Smyth presented her paper entitled "Outcomes of Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Patients with N3 Neck Disease Treated Primarily with Chemoradiation Vs. Surgical Resection" along with her co-authors Dr. Huang, Allison Deal, MS, and Drs. Weissler, Zanation and Shores.

One could still find rest and relaxation during the busy conference: The annual Harold C. Pillsbury golf classic was very well-attended and many of our residents and attendings bravely navigated the Cholla Trail to the peak of Camelback Mountain.



ENT at Camelback Mountain



Elizabeth Perry

A couple of weeks ago, I opened an e-mail message that read like one I had sent hundreds of times over the past decade. "Would you be willing to contribute an article to the next issue of *Heads Up*?" I replied immediately and told Nicolette that I'd love to.

I joined the UNC Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery family in 1997 as a secretary, mainly doing medical transcription for Drs. Biggers, Yarbrough, and Carrasco. I took a year off for personal reasons, and was then re-hired as the editorial assistant in 1999. My job included assisting the doctors with manuscripts for publication, updating their CVs, making simple slide presentations using Powerpoint, as well as doing transcription for Dr. Drake. There had been four issues of *Heads Up* in the mid 1990s, so one of the first things Dr. Pillsbury asked me to do was to get this newsletter going again, and he wanted a website. I had no training in newsletter production or graphic design, and knew nothing about how to manage

Passing the Torch

Written by Elizabeth Perry

a website, but I learned the basics. The look of *Heads Up* and the annual report improved over the years I was there, but I began to realize that I did not have the technical and graphic design skills necessary to keep the publications and website at the level that reflected the Department's growing national and international reputation.

It became clear to me that change was needed, for the good of the Department's public image, as well as for my personal growth. In January of this year, I handed the torch over to Nicolette DeGroot. She graduated from Appalachian State University with a major in Graphic Arts and Imaging Technology and has over 5 years experience in the graphic communications industry. Check out her own website, www.nicolettedegroot.com, to learn about her talents and see some of her creations. When I saw a draft of this issue of *Heads Up*, I was blown away! As the new Creative Director, Nicolette is the professional that the Department has needed for some time.

As for me, I truly enjoyed getting to know the wonderful people of the Department, working with them on the publications, learning about their work, and seeing the surgeons in action in the Operating Room. I was inspired by their dedication to improving the lives of

their patients. It was a privilege to be a part of one of the top departments of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery in the nation, and I am grateful to Dr. Pillsbury for allowing me that opportunity.

After spending so much time around the healthcare professionals in the Department, I began to feel a strong desire to work directly with people myself. I researched the possibilities, knowing that the future is very promising for those going into allied health professions, especially for those who speak Spanish and work with the aging population. I've gone back to school, with the goal of becoming a bilingual occupational therapy assistant so that I can help people who have physical or cognitive challenges be able to perform everyday activities.



Nicolette DeGroot

Yes, it's a complete career change, and I'm not exactly in my 20s anymore, but I believe change is necessary for growth, and it's never too late to change course. So it's all good and exciting. I'm also excited about what the future holds for this Department that has meant so much to me, and I'm looking forward to reading all about it in the new *Heads Up*!

ENT Announcements

THE SOCIETY FOR COCHLEAR IMPLANTS AND OTHER AUDITORY PROSTHESES

In an effort to bring professional groups closer together, Drs. Buchman and Adunka, along with an international group of other cochlear implant experts, are currently in the process of setting-up



Oliver Adunka, MD and Craig Buchman, MD

a global, multi-professional society for cochlear implants and related technology. This organization should help bridge the gap between various professionals such as audiologists, speech and language pathologists, researchers, teachers, and otolaryngologists. We are developing a multidisciplinary, non-profit organization with the goals of advancing education, patient care, and research in cochlear implantation and other related auditory prostheses. With these goals in mind, the society will provide a platform that allows professionals from various fields to communicate through common information portals that include meetings, scientific journals and web-based media.

BHANGRA DANCING RESIDENT REPRESENTS

Deepak Dugar, MD was featured in a promotional video produced by the UNC Healthcare Media group. The video, part of the ongoing UNC series “**real doctors, real people**,” has been nominated for the People’s Telly Awards. Deepak had this to say about his 4 minutes of fame:



Deepak Dugar, MD

“We all come from a rich heritage, no matter where we are from. I found it refreshing to be spotlighted for my interest in Indian Bhangra dancing, because it reminds us all to not lose touch with the cultural traditions we were raised with, no matter how busy we are. It is easy to get lost in the world of Surgery, especially as a fumbling intern obsessed with improving on surgical skills. But our “me” time, which we spend with our families and traditions, keeps us mentally balanced so we can come to work revitalized and ready to care for our patients in the manner that keeps this Department one of the best in the nation.”

See the video at med.unc.edu/ent.

CRANIOFACIAL FUNDS LATINO INTERPRETER

The UNC Craniofacial Center has made efforts over the past few years to improve the quality of the care and social support provided to its Latino patients and families. In the recent past, the center has seen their numbers of socially isolated, recently immigrated, Latino families increase.

One thing that has modestly improved the experience of seeking health care for a child with a cleft lip and/or palate for these Latino families is having an experienced interpreter at the Center. Supported by a service award of the national AOA Society, the Center has served as a



Depicted is a family, Jessica, Edgar and the baby served by the UNC Craniofacial Center with 4th year medical students, Gita Madan, MD, Matthew Dedmon, MD, and faculty Amelia F. Drake, MD

liaison for the families in helping to find resources for their affected child applicable to their culture and language barriers.

The presence of the interpreter and the acquisition of Spanish resources (including videos and brochures applicable for the diagnoses in Spanish) has improved the overall care for the Latino patients and families. This has benefited the Latino community within the Chapel Hill and Carrboro areas, as well as throughout the state, through increased involvement in community affairs.

UNC PEDIATRIC OTOLARYNGOLOGY FELLOWSHIP ENTERS ITS THIRD YEAR

It seems like just yesterday that Drs. Harold Pillsbury and Austin Rose had first discussed the possible need for a fellow to help address the rapid growth in need for Pediatric ENT services here in North Carolina. Three years later, however, we are currently in the midst of interviews for our fourth pediatric otolaryngology fellow. Our first fellow, Dr. Laura Rosenthal, is now on the faculty at Loyola University in Chicago and our current fellow, Dr. Alisha West, has accepted a position at UCLA.

We are very proud of the hard work and contributions of our fellows thus far, and look forward to another outstanding year. In July, 2011, we will welcome Dr. James Ruda, who is currently finishing his chief residency year at the Cleveland Clinic.

As home to a free-standing Children’s Hospital, Pediatric Airway Center, Craniofacial Center and Pediatric Cochlear Implant Program, UNC offers a clear opportunity for excellent training at the fellow level in pediatric otolaryngology.



UNC

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY/
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

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Sounds of Celebration

SAVE THE DATE!

2011 UNC COCHLEAR IMPLANT PICNIC

Patients of the Adult Cochlear Implant Program, Carolina Children's Communicative Disorders Program (CCCDP), and the Center for the Acquisition of Spoken Language Through Listening Enrichment (CASTLE) are invited to bring their family and friends for an afternoon of food, games, and an opportunity to share experiences with fellow cochlear implant recipients.

We plan to expand this year's celebration with more games and activities for all ages, special appearances by UNC favorites, and resources for patients with hearing loss in North Carolina.

Date: Saturday, May 21, 2011

Time: 11:00-2:00pm

Place: UNC-CH Campus,

Kenan-Flagler Business School Latane Plaza

RSVP: <http://www.med.unc.edu/earandhearing/rsvp>

Directions: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/>



Did you know about our HEAD AND NECK SCREENING DAY?

May 11, 2011 | 1-4pm
UNC-CH ENT Clinic

"In this era of emphasis on cost effective medicine, it is increasingly important for people to take responsibility for their own health through healthy living and the avoidance of tobacco and excessive alcohol. Screening clinics such as this, are one way to increase awareness and to educate people about healthy living. The new UNC nicotine dependence program is a great asset to assist people in quitting smoking," says Dr. Mark Weissler.

40,000 Americans will develop an oral, head and neck cancer this year. Warning signs and symptoms for oral, head and neck cancer include ulcers in the mouth that will not heal, a lump in the neck, difficulty swallowing, or a change in voice.

Risk factors include:

- Smoking or chewing tobacco
- Alcohol consumption
- History of cancer in the affected area

In the lobby of UNC Hospitals, staff of the multidisciplinary team will provide information about head and neck cancer, including smoking cessation and nutrition. The screening will be held on Wednesday May 11th, 2011 from 1-4pm.

No appointment necessary.

The Multidisciplinary Head & Neck Oncology Program at UNC Health Care will be participating in the annual Oral, Head & Neck Cancer Awareness Week (May 8-14, 2011) sponsored by the Head and Neck Cancer Alliance. Free head & neck cancer screenings will be provided in the ENT Clinic at UNC Hospitals on Wednesday May 11th, 2011 from 1-4pm. The screenings will be provided by Drs. Mark Weissler, Carol Shores, Trevor Hackman, and the residents of the Department of Otolaryngology.

Newton D. Fischer

The great tradition of the Department's Newton D. Fischer Society Meeting continues this year on Saturday, June 4th at the Paul J. Rizzo Conference Center here in Chapel Hill. For many years, this annual meeting has served as a forum for both practical clinical updates and the presentation of newly discovered research findings, as well as a terrific opportunity for alumni of the residency program to reconnect. As in previous years, the meeting will be followed by the Chief Residents Dinner in the evening and on Sunday, June 5th by a golf outing at the UNC Finley Golf Course – please save the date!

The program is currently being finalized by Course Co-Directors, Dr. Austin Rose and Dr. Carlos Ebert, and will include updates in Laryngology and Pediatric ENT, as well as a panel discussion in Otolaryngology. This year's Keynote Lecture will be given by Dr. Myles Pensak from the University of Cincinnati.

NEWTON D. FISCHER SOCIETY MEETING

June 4, 2011
Paul J. Rizzo Conference Center
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

