

President's Message



Avani P. Ingley, MD
President GSO/HNS

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the back-to-school season and the pleasant fall weather. As we transition into this new academic year, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude on behalf of the Georgia Society of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck surgery to Dr. Jenny Kim for her exceptional leadership over the past year. She helped organize two memorable and highly educational sessions at the Fall 2022 and Summer 2023 meetings.

The Summer Meeting, held at the picturesque Ritz Carlton on Amelia Island, provided an ideal setting for our members to come together and engage in enriching presentations, knowledge sharing, and networking opportunities.

The ocean backdrop provided a wonderful atmosphere in which to learn from the vast knowledge and experience of our esteemed faculty speakers Dr. Joe Hahn, Dr. Stacey Ishman, and Dr. Stephanie Wetzel. Our Sunday Round Table journal club meeting also delivered stimulating discussion on the topics of chronic sinusitis, adult and pediatric obstructive sleep apnea and various types of oral pathology.

As many of you know, our society was honored for a record third time as a Model Society by the Board of Governors at our National Meeting this fall. The award is given to outstanding societies that exhibit effective leadership, represent Academy and Foundation programs, and further Academy goals in the Board of Governors. Huge congratulations and appreciation goes to Tara Morrison, her team, our GSO Board, and all of our members, several of whom were present in Nashville to accept this amazing honor.

This fall we will return to our traditional location at the Ritz Carlton at Reynolds Plantation. Dr Eric Appelbaum and I are co-hosting the Fall 2023 GSO-HNS meeting. The festive setting will serve as a stimulating environment for academic discussions and learning along with fun family activities. We are working to finalize our agenda.

In closing, thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our wonderful society by encouraging your partner providers and colleagues to join and attend meetings. I look forward to our future and wish you all a successful autumn season.

See you in December!



Tara Morrison, Elizabeth Shaw, Lorraine Williams and Pablo Stolovitzky accepting the award

In this issue...

p. 1 ...President's Message

p. 2 ...Emory University Updates

p. 5 ...Augusta University/Medical College
of Georgia Updates

p. 10 ...GSO/HNS Events

p. 12...GSO/HNS Members



GSO Fall 2023

By: Aisha Harun, MD

**Assistant Professor,
Otolaryngology-Head and
Neck Surgery**

Director, Decatur

Otolaryngology Clinical Site

EMORY

HEALTHCARE

Chief of the Otology Division

Dr. Vivas became a part of the Emory Department of Otolaryngology faculty in 2013. She completed an Otorhinolaryngology Residency at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, followed by a Neurotology Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, PA. Presently, she serves as the new Chief of the Division of Otology at Emory.



Fulbright Scholar 2023-2024

Five members of Emory University's faculty and staff have been named 2023-24 Fulbright U.S. Scholars. Dr. Nikhila Raol is among more than 800 U.S. citizens who will conduct research abroad during the 2023-24 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. Dr. Raol, an associate professor in the Department of Otolaryngology at Emory, will embark on a research journey to Hyderabad, Telangana, India, where she will be working at Niloufer Hospital for Women and Children. Her project, titled "Exploring the Impact of Ankyloglossia on Breastfeeding Challenges," aims to assess the influence of ankyloglossia on the successful maintenance of breastfeeding.



Welcome Max Kligerman, MD, MPH

Dr. Kligerman joins our faculty at the VA and at our Decatur practice. He trained at Stanford and most recently completed his Head & Neck Cancer Fellowship at Memorial Sloan Ketterin in NYC. Dr. Kligerman will see patients on Tuesdays in Decatur.



Welcome Tyler Halle, MD

Dr. Halle returns to Emory after completing his Fellowship in Head & Neck Cancer at the University of Pennsylvania. He was our Emory Chief Resident and we are thrilled he is joining our faculty. Dr. Halle will see patients primarily at Grady with Drs. Moore and Hamilton.



AAO-HNS 2023 Annual Meeting

Emory Otolaryngology had a strong presence at this year's Academy Meeting!



Upcoming Emory Courses

Emory Skull Base Course - November 30 to December 2, 2023

This three-day course, led by neurosurgeons and otolaryngology surgeons, exposes the theoretical basis of traditional skull base microsurgical techniques along with a detailed insight on expanded endoscopic techniques and robotic-assisted exoscopic visualization. Participants will have the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills through hands-on workshop sessions in which key skull base procedures are recreated using preserved and injected cadaveric specimens.



Emily Barrow, MD



Arturo Solares, MD



Esther Vivas, MD



Gustavo Pradilla, MD



Tomás Garzón-Muñdi, MD



Candance Hobson, MD

Emory Temporal Bone Surgical Dissection Course - November 6 to 10, 2023

The Department of Otolaryngology at Emory University School of Medicine presents a comprehensive Temporal Bone Surgical Dissection Course. Designed as an immersive experience over five days, this course is tailored for otologic surgeons and residents seeking to enhance their expertise. During the course, participants will delve into the intricate surgical anatomy of the temporal bone, gaining insights into the latest advancements in the surgical treatment of ear disorders. The curriculum will encompass a range of temporal bone surgical approaches, including addressing chronic ear conditions, stapedectomy, ossicular reconstruction, exposure of the facial nerve, vestibular surgery, transmastoid labyrinthectomy, dissection of the internal auditory canal, and surgeries involving cochlear and bone-anchored implants.

Emory Voice Center Laryngeal Imaging and FEES Course - February 2024

The Emory Voice Center Laryngeal Imaging and FEES Hands-On Workshop has provided exceptional training in laryngopharyngeal endoscopy since 2004. Participants learn techniques to optimize their skills in rigid and flexible endoscopy and flexible endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES).



Follow us on
Instagram!

Keep up with all things new
within our department

@emory_ent





AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY
**MEDICAL COLLEGE
OF GEORGIA**

Department of Otolaryngology



Dr. Still Kountakis, MD, Ph.D.

Edward S. Porubsky, MD Distinguished Chair in Otolaryngology
Professor and Chair, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and
Neck Surgery Medical College of Georgia - Augusta University

Dear Fellow Georgia Otolaryngologists,

As autumn unfolds, I bring you updates filled with optimism from our Otolaryngology Department at MCG and the newly formed Wellstar MCG Health. We've welcomed an exceptional group of interns whose early performances are promising. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to their training.

The recent merger between AU Health and Wellstar has inaugurated Wellstar MCG Health, expanding our reach and collaborative opportunities. This union enhances our ability to offer specialized services to even the most remote areas of Georgia. It also enriches the educational and research landscape, benefiting both our learners and patients across the state.

On a somber note, we mourn the loss of Dr. Frederick N. Klippert, Professor Emeritus of our department. A graduate of Ohio State University College of Medicine, Dr. Klippert had a distinguished career that included military service and various administrative roles. He was deeply committed to community service and was honored with several awards, including the Georgia Society of Otolaryngology-HNS 2003 Gerald Gussack Award for Teaching and Patient Care. His legacy will continue to inspire us, and our thoughts are with his family during this difficult time.

Best regards,

Stil Kountakis, MD, PhD

Chair, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

MCG-Augusta University

Wellstar MCG Health

Department Highlights



Dr. J. Drew Prosser was awarded the **Patient Care Award** at the Faculty Awards Ceremony on June 13, 2023. This award is given to those who are popular among patients. Dr. Prosser goes out of his way to care for patients, which is evidenced in patient testimonials.



Dr. J. Kenneth Byrd was awarded the **Clinical Science Teaching Award** at the Faculty Awards Ceremony on June 13, 2023. This award is for the outstanding evaluation by students and residents with significant mentorship.



Dr. Sarah Hodge was selected by the office of MCG Office for Faculty Success as an **"AU/MCG Woman Who Inspires"** by MCG's 2023 Women In Medicine Month Campaign, for her enthusiastic contributions to the clinical, educational, and service missions of MCG.

Dr. Sarah Hodge was selected as a "Star Performer" by Wellstar MCG Health and was invited to the Top Performers Breakfast on 7/10/2023. This honor was given to Dr. Hodge by the Wellstar MCG Health Center for Patients and Families, for receiving great patient feedback and ratings.



Dr. Camilo Reyes and Dr. Janis Coffin (AU Family Medicine) were featured on CBS Channel 26 Morning Mix Show. They discussed snoring, obstructive sleep apnea, and the hypoglossal nerve stimulation implant "Inspire."

<https://www.wrdw.com/video/2023/07/19/dr-janis-coffin-tells-us-about-sleep-divorce-meaning-benefits/>

Dr. Camilo Reyes was named a "Physician of Excellence" by Inspire Medical Systems! This honor was given to Dr. Reyes for his surgical skills and his commitment to patient care and outcomes. The Wellstar MCG Health's Inspire Program has a near 94% success rate and 93 patients implanted.



Dr. Dan Sharbel was selected as a "Star Performer" by Wellstar MCG Health and was invited to the Top Performers Breakfast on 7/10/2023. This honor was given to Dr. Sharbel by the Wellstar MCG Health Center for Patients and Families, for receiving great patient feedback and ratings.

New Faculty



We are pleased to announce that Forest W. Weir, MD joined the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery as Assistant Professor in the Division of Head and Neck Surgery on August 1, 2023. Dr. Weir graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in 2017 and completed his Otolaryngology residency at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2022. He then completed his fellowship training in Head and Neck Surgical Oncology/Microvascular Reconstruction at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2023. His clinical interests include caring for patients with complex head and neck cancers with a focus on transoral robotic surgery, advanced endocrine surgery, and microvascular free flap reconstruction.

New Providers



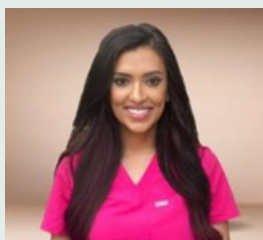
Alex Dawson, AuD, CCC-A, FAAA
Audiologist



Kristie Wilson, AuD, CCC-A
Audiologist



Taylor L. Hughes, PA-C
Endocrine Surgery APP



Audrey Lown, RN, FNP-BC, CNOR, CNIV
Rhinology and Sleep Surgery APP

Farewell Graduating Residents and Fellows

Congratulations to our recently graduated Residents and Fellows. They're well-prepared for good careers in Otolaryngology, thanks to their time at MCG. Their hard work and dedication deserve recognition and will certainly benefit the patients they will care for.

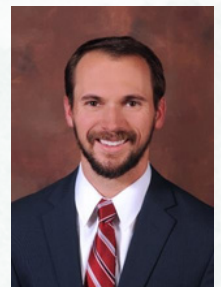
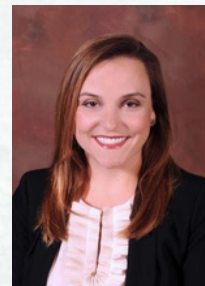


Jeffrey Falco, MD
Chief Resident
Dr. Falco joined Spokane Valley Ear, Nose, Throat and Facial Plastics in Spokane Valley, WA.



Kareem Haroun, MD
Rhinology Fellow
Dr. Haroun joined Houston ENT in Houston, TX.

Lindsey Megow Trefz, MD
Chief Resident
Dr. Megow Trefz joined Charlotte Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat Associates in Charlotte, NC as a General Otolaryngologist.



Trevor Getz, MD
Chief Resident
Dr. Getz joined Florida ENT and Allergy, a private practice group in Tampa, FL as a General Otolaryngologist.



Erika Ho, MD
Laryngology Fellow
Dr. Ho joined the San Diego Naval Medical Center as a Laryngologist.

Congratulations to our Graduates!

We celebrated our graduates at the annual Porubsky Symposium and Alumni Event on June 9-10, 2023. Congratulations to Drs. Falco, Getz, Megow Trefz, Haroun and Ho!



In Memoriam: Dr. Frederick N. Klippert, A long-time faculty member of our department.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dr. Frederick N. Klippert, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the Medical College of Georgia-Augusta University. Dr. Klippert was a highly esteemed figure of our department, making lasting contributions to patient care, education, and research.

Education and Early Career

Dr. Klippert received his Bachelor of Science from Mount Union College in Ohio and went on to earn his M.D. from Ohio State University College of Medicine. His post-doctoral training included an internship at Midland Community Hospital and a residency in Otolaryngology at the University of Michigan Medical Center. He was board-certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology in 1974.

Military Service

Before entering private practice, Dr. Klippert served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force at Grand Forks Air Force Base in North Dakota from 1967 to 1969.

Professional Career

Dr. Klippert had an illustrious career in both private practice and academia. He worked at Burns Clinic Medical Center in Michigan and The Toledo Clinic in Ohio before joining the Medical College of Georgia in 1991. Here, he held various administrative roles, including Section Head of the Department of Surgery, Section of Otolaryngology at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Augusta, and Coordinator of Resident Recruitment and Match.

Dr. Klippert was actively involved in numerous committees, ranging from Quality Assurance to Cancer Committees. His dedication was recognized through several awards, including the 2003 Gerald Gussack Award for Teaching and Patient Care by the Georgia Society of Otolaryngology. Dr. Klippert retired from the Medical College of Georgia as Professor Emeritus in 2011.

Community Service

Beyond his professional commitments, Dr. Klippert was deeply involved in community service. He volunteered for the Midwest Medical Mission in the Dominican Republic, even taking residents at his own expense to provide them with invaluable humanitarian experience.

Dr. Klippert's legacy will be remembered not only through his professional achievements, but also through the countless lives he touched, both within and outside the medical community. Our thoughts are with his surviving wife Julianne and their family during this difficult time.



MCG Otolaryngology Social Media

The department has continued to establish a social media presence on Instagram and Facebook. We have found that this is a great opportunity to keep alumni, referring physicians and friends updated on some of the developments in our department. Over time we will be adding patient education posts as well. Our current sites can be reached at @mcgotolaryngology. We would love to hear from alumni. If you have interesting pictures or stories, please send them to Greg Postma at gpostma@augusta.edu.



Upcoming Educational Events

December 2 - 3, 2023

GSO/HNS & MAESO 2023 Scientific Assembly

The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee

<https://gsohns.wildapricot.org/event-5339988>

April 18 - 20, 2024

Southern States Rhinology Symposium

Kiawah Island, South Carolina

<https://ssrf.wildapricot.org/event-5435060>

June 7- 8, 2024

Annual Porubsky Symposium and Alumni Event

Augusta, Georgia

www.aofedtn.org/Porubsky

To make an appointment for your patient, please call:

Adults 706-721-4400

Pediatric 706-721-5500

Adult Head & Neck Cancer 706-721-6744

Utilize our physician referral tool making it simple for you and your patients –

augustahealth.org/referral

Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

1120 15th Street, BP-4109

Augusta, GA 30912

Academic Office: 706-721-6100

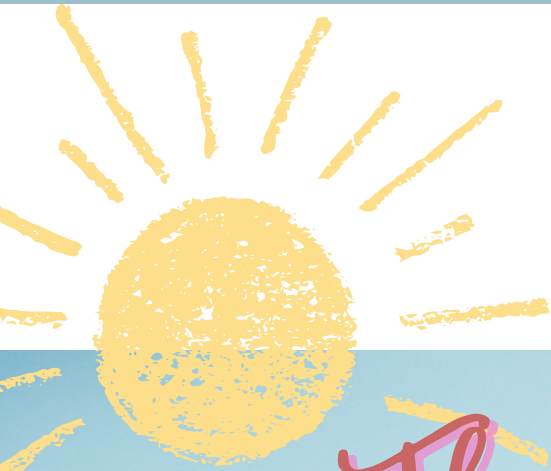
Register Now!

**GSO/HNS & MAESO 2023
SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY**

DECEMBER 2-3, 2023

**THE RITZ-CARLTON REYNOLDS
GREENSBORO, GA**

<https://gsohns.wildapricot.org/event-5339988>



GSO HNS

The Georgia Society of
Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery

Save The Date!





**2024 Annual
Summer
Meeting**

JULY 18 - 21, 2024

**THE CLOISTER
SEA ISLAND, GA**

GSO/HNS Members

If you have not done so yet, be sure to
 renew your dues! 

Please spread the word, and send this
link for new members to join:

<https://gsohns.wildapricot.org/Join-Us>

 **FOLLOW US ON
SOCIAL MEDIA!** 



on Instagram @gasocietyofoto



on Facebook @gsohns



on Twitter @gasocietyofoto