

# UTAH Otolaryngology UPDATES



The University of Utah  
Division of Otolaryngology

Editors: Albert Park, MD;

Steven Mobley, MD; Richard Orlandi, MD



## A Message from the Chairman

Welcome to the inaugural issue of **Utah Otolaryngology Updates** which presents some of the exciting changes that are happening at the University of Utah, Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery. We plan to publish this newsletter two times per year. Its purpose is to keep you informed of upcoming continuing medical education events, new faculty, new services, and the news of our current and former residents.

The expansion of our residency complement is one of the most exciting things that have happened to our program recently. We underwent an onsite review by the American Board of Otolaryngology Residency Review Com-

mittee and were not only given a five-year accreditation (the highest possible) but also given permission to expand our annual resident complement from two to three per year. We are very proud of the hard work that the residency staff and faculty performed during this review process. Currently, we have three PGY1 and three PGY 2 residents and we will be filling one additional space each year. This year, we will have two residents at Primary Children's Medical Center, one is a PGY4 and the other is a PGY2. That rotation has become very busy for our program and the extra complement is badly needed. This additional complement also gives us the flexibility to extend our resident research

## In this issue

### Utah Otolaryngology Update

We are excited to announce the upcoming program for the annual Utah Otolaryngology Update Meeting, June 20 and 21. (See below)

### Accomplishments

Dr. Kristina Tansvatdi presented a poster on The Challenges of Diagnosing Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia at last Fall's American Academy of Otolaryngology. (Cont p2)

### Our Newest Residents

The residents are the foundation of this program. For that reason, we would like to present our three PGY-2 residents to highlight their accomplishments both in and outside otolaryngology. (Cont p3-4)

## Utah Otolaryngology Update

**We are excited to announce the upcoming program for the annual Utah Otolaryngology Update Meeting, June 20 and 21. Our guest speakers will be Drs. Peter Koltai, Craig Murakami and Brad Welling. Please contact Julie Borgman at (801)581-7515 or julie.borgman@hsc.utah.edu if you wish to register for the meeting.**

## Spotlight on alumni

**Our featured alumnus is Dr. Erik Gilbert who completed his residency in 2004. He is an excellent physician with boundless energy, enthusiasm, expertise and average mountain biking skills (He broke his collar bone trying to catch up with Dr. Shelton during his residency).** (Cont p3-4)

**Spotlight on alumni  
Dr. Erik Gilbert**



**Accomplishments**

**Dr. Kristina Tansvatdi presented a poster on The Challenges of Diagnosing Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia at last Fall's American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery meeting in Washington D.C.** Dr. Richard Orlandi was awarded a grant for "Development of an Animal Model for Sinus Wound Healing". Dr. Albert Park was awarded a grant for "Development of a Guinea Pig Model for CMV Induced Sensorineural Hearing Loss". Dr. Park was an invited speaker on pediatric sensorineural hearing loss at last December's SENTAC meeting. Dr. Jason Diaz will be presenting at the upcoming COSM meeting on Stapedectomy Outcomes: Teflon-Wire Versus Nitinol Prosthesis. Dr. Jeb Justice will be presenting a poster on the use of tracheotomy for airway foreign body management at the ABEA. Dr. Marshall Smith received honorable mention for his triological society thesis titled "Mitomycin C and the Endoscopic Treatment of Laryngotracheal Stenosis: Are Two Applications Better than One?" He will present his paper at the upcoming ABEA meeting. Dr. Frank Warren will be presenting a paper "Imaging Characteristics of Metastatic Lesions to the Cerebellopontine Angle" for the upcoming ANS meeting. Dr. Abdel-Aziz Elsherif will be presenting a paper "Should All Newborns Who Undergo PDA Ligation be Examined for Vocal Fold Mobility" for the ASPO meeting. Dr. Harlan Muntz will present a study "Home Nursing for Children with Tracheostomy: Deciding Who is Best Served" for ASPO. Dr. Fredrik Grimmer will also present at the ASPO meeting. He will report the "Long-Term Results of Innominate Artery Reimplantation for Innominate Artery Compression Syndrome." Dr. Jason Hunt will show a poster on the "Utility of Contrast Enhanced CT and MR Imaging for Acute Invasive Fungal Sinusitis." Dr. Richard Gurgel will present a poster on "Chronic Cough and Tonsillar Hypertrophy: A Case Series" for the COSM.

**A Message from the Chairman cont.**

rotation from four months to six months.

Based on academic criteria, our training program was judged to be one of the top four in the nation by the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery. Because of this designation, we competed in an academic event in Washington D.C. last September, the Academic Bowl. I am pleased to report that our team won this event, and we are very proud of our residents.

In the past year three new faculty joined our division. Jason Hunt, M.D. performs head and neck oncology and microvascular reconstruction surgery. He completed his residency at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center and a fellowship at Vanderbilt. Frank Warren, M.D. performs otology and neurotology. He completed his residency at Oregon Health and Science University and a fellowship at Vanderbilt.

Yong Wang Ph.D. has recently joined us as Director of Research. Dr. Wang received his Ph.D. from Purdue in Neuroscience and did Post Doctoral work at Harvard and the University of North Carolina, Cha-

pel Hill. His area of interest is in auditory brainstem physiology and he holds a NIH RO3 grant. He will direct the resident's research rotation, mentor junior faculty in their research and perform independent research on his own.

In July, Luke Buchmann, M.D. will join our faculty as a Microvascular/Head and Neck Surgeon. He completed his residency at the University of Kansas and is currently finishing his fellowship at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery has gradually evolved and matured during my time at Utah. There has always been solid academic production within our Division that was greatly expanded and enhanced through the efforts of Steven Gray, M.D. This tradition continues, as all of our recent recruits are tenure track faculty. It is truly inspiring to see these energetic and creative young people develop their national reputation, and as they do this, they also enhance the reputation of our program.

Two of our faculty have recently obtained competitive grants to support their research. Dr. Rich-

ard Orlandi was awarded a grant for "Development of an Animal Model for Sinus Wound Healing". Dr. Albert Park was awarded a grant for "Development of a Guinea Pig Model for CMV Induced Sensorineural Hearing Loss". We are very proud of their success in obtaining these grants.

I am pleased to announce that we have successfully completed the funding for the Steven Gray, M.D. Memorial and James Parkin, M.D. Lectureships. These lectureships are funded to \$125,000 each, so that the interest from these accounts can pay for the expenses for two speakers at our annual meeting. I would like to thank Steve's family and relatives, the Howard Foundation, our division and many of our alumni for their generous contributions to this effort.

Please remember that continuing medical education credit is available through the University of Utah. Our Wednesday morning conferences are accredited, which is a very convenient way to receive this credit. If you would like to be placed on a mailing list for our conference schedule, please contact Leora Loy at leora.loy@hsc.utah.edu.

I would also like to remind you of the upcoming annual Utah Otolaryngology Update Meeting, June 20 and 21, 2008. Our guest speakers will be Peter Koltai, MD from Stanford University, Craig Murakami, MD from Virginia Mason Medical Center, and Brad Welling, MD from Ohio State University. In the near future you will receive a copy of the preliminary program.

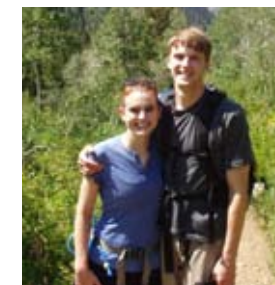
**Spotlight on alumni cont.**

"I am a 2004 graduate of the Utah otolaryngology program. Following graduation, I joined a practice in Coeur d'Alene, about 75 miles south of the Canadian border in the Idaho panhandle. Coeur d'Alene is known for its outdoor recreation, with several large lakes, three local ski resorts, and the world's only floating green. It hosts the Ironman Coeur d'Alene Triathlon, and has been featured on many "best places to live" lists in recent years. As seen in the photos, my family of 6 enjoys the excellent quality of life North Idaho has to offer.

"Our practice consists of two physicians, an audiologist, and an allergy department. We have an active endocrine surgery caseload, a growing sleep apnea experience, and a robust allergy practice started from scratch two years ago. We also see a fair amount of ear surgery, and facial skin cancer and trauma.

"I feel fortunate to have trained at Utah. The broad-based training enables me to practice the full range of the specialty, which I find challenging and rewarding. In our small town, the nearest university setting is 6 hours away. Since leaving residency, I have contacted every faculty member with whom I trained at some point for advice on a case. I've also enjoyed quality of the CME available at the yearly Utah Otolaryngology Update, and the camaraderie of joining my mentors and fellow former residents on Utah's famous mountain biking trails."

**Our Newest Residents cont.**



**Jeb Justice**

Jeb was born in San Antonio, but raised from age 1 in Mobile, Alabama. He attended college at Wake Forest University where he met his future wife. They both attended medical school together at Emory University in Atlanta, did the couples match and came out to Utah. Beth is in her pediatrics residency. They have a dog, Annie, and they both enjoy football, basketball, tennis, hiking, biking, and skiing. He also enjoys snowboarding, Wake Forest Demon Deacon basketball, and Alabama Crimson Tide football.



**Steven Daines**

Steven was born and raised in Arcadia, California. He is the youngest of four brothers. He played basketball and volleyball in high school then attended Brigham Young University where he majored in Business Management with an emphasis in Finance. He took two years away from his studies to serve a mission for the LDS church in Montevideo, Uruguay where he learned to speak Spanish fluently. He attended medical school at the University of California-Irvine and was awarded membership in the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. His outside interests are sports and travel.

## Our Newest Residents cont.



### Ryan McCool

Ryan McCool was recruited from his southern hometown of Birmingham, AL. There he completed a bachelor of arts degree with honors in psychology from Samford University and a medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine. His interest in surgery developed while working with a prominent orthopedist in Germany as part of his undergraduate German language minor. Ryan has worked as a wedding photographer, waiter, door-to-door salesman, Wal-Mart employee, veterinary assistant, youth minister, and rock star. All of these have led him to be quite grateful for his current job. Outside of the hospital he enjoys rock climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowboarding, photography, music, travel, and golf. This enthusiasm for the outdoors was part of his decision to leave the south and move to the beautiful state of Utah for his residency.

## Giving Back

**Our current Capital Campaign is to complete the funding of the Dolowitz Memorial Lectureship. The interest from this account will be used to cover expenses to attract an internationally respected expert for our annual Otolaryngology Utah Update meeting. We currently have approximately \$60,000 toward a goal of \$120,000. Please consider a tax deductible donation this year.**

**To donate, please contact Leora Loy at 801-587-7678 or email her at [leora.loy@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:leora.loy@hsc.utah.edu)**

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