ENT at Academy

Over 30 representatives from KU ENT attended the 122nd AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting and OTO Experience in October. Clockwise below: Kevin Sykes, PhD, Julie Wei, MD, Douglas Girod, MD, Alexander Chiu, MD, and Shannon Kraft, MD, enjoy an evening event; Alexander Chiu, MD, discusses KU Social Media strategy; A participant asks a question as Jennifer Villwock, MD, presents on mentorship, training, and physician burnout; KU ENT had over 20 representatives on podiums, posters, and panels at the Atlanta, GA, event.
More than 100 University of Kansas medical staff, including ENT Dr. Kiran Kakarala, were involved after Xavier Cunningham fell out of his treehouse trying to escape a yellow jacket nest and landed face-first on a rotisserie skewer.

Dr. Kakarala called the event a “one in a million shot,” as the skewer missed Xavier’s vital organs by millimeters. A full recovery is expected.

Xavier Cunningham’s X-ray after he fell on a skewer that another child left upright in his yard.

Dr. Kiran Kakarala and Xavier Cunningham at a follow up visit.

ENT Student Interest Group

Get Involved with ENTSIG:

Alumni and local ENT practitioners are invited to attend a meeting, host an event, or present a session. For more information about the ENTSIG group or to get involved, contact current co-presidents Gracie Palmer (c095p115@kumc.edu) or James Houghton (jhoughton@kumc.edu).

Dr. Shannon Kraft addresses ENTSIG on how to cultivate a competitive residency application.
ENT Around the Globe

This September I accompanied the Kansas City based Medical Missions Foundation for a service trip to Gulu, Uganda. Under the supervision of Dr. Brandon Johnson, we treated patients at Saint Mary's Hospital Lacor in the clinic and performed surgeries during a week at the hospital. In addition to providing direct patient care, we worked with local nurses and doctors to exchange our experiences and knowledge and to better understand cultural nuances that were essential to proper patient care. Some of our teaching opportunities were formal, including a training day focused on cardiopulmonary resuscitation that was led by our nursing colleagues and primary care providers. Other exchanges of ideas came at unexpected moments and occurred through forming friendships with our hosts. These relationships were essential not only to providing patient care, but also to understanding the larger context in which we were working.

The most challenging aspect of our work was making medical decisions in a completely different context than we were used to. Incorporated into every medical decision are a series of assumptions pertaining to the patient, the hospital, and the country as a whole. We take for granted in our usual practice that a patient will have access to levothyroxine after thyroidectomy. We believe that we have achieved informed consent before every surgery and that we have understood the patient's perspective in deriving a mutually created plan of care. It is assumed that a patient undergoing a cancer surgery will have access to radiation, dental care, social services, and reliable follow-up. These assumptions must be completely re-evaluated on medical service trips, and each decision must be approached with careful consideration of just how different the circumstances are in our host country.

Going forward, Medical Missions Foundation continues to partner with Saint Mary's Hospital Lacor, working to ensure proper follow-up care for patients and to plan future trips. We continue to build relationships founded on trust and focused on the shared goal to heal, whether through medicine, surgery, or simply companionship and care. As we reflect on our trip, we think of ways to improve our partnership and sharpen our focus on education. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the foundation and to my hosts and friends in Uganda for their gracious hospitality. I want to also express my gratitude to the American Academy of Otolaryngology and to the University of Kansas Department of Otolaryngology for their financial support of my trip.

Top: Dr. Brandon Johnson, KU ENT Alumni, and Dr. Andrew Holcomb, KU ENT Chief Resident, operate on a patient during the recent trip to Uganda. Bottom: Ugandan and US team members pose for a picture.

If you would like to help residents like Dr. Holcomb participate in future mission trips, visit kumc.edu/school-of-medicine/otolaryngology/give-now for details on how to get involved.
**Recent Publications**

**A Review of Promising Natural Chemopreventive Agents for Head and Neck Cancer**

**Association of Skin and Cartilage Variables With Composite Graft Healing in a Rabbit Model**

**Cancer Associated Fibroblasts Drive Glycolysis in a Targetable Signaling Loop Implicated in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Progression**

**Comparison of Modern Rigid Fixation Plating Outcomes for Segmental Mandibular Microvascular Reconstruction**

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**KU KUDOS**

**Sufi Thomas, PhD**
Sufi Thomas, PhD, was invited to serve on the Editorial Board for *Head and Neck Journal* for the 2018-2021 term. *Head and Neck* is an international, multidisciplinary publication of original contributions concerning the diagnosis and management of diseases of the head and neck.

Dr. Thomas also received the The University of Kansas Cancer Center Director’s 2018 Young Scientist Award. The Director’s awards recognize individuals who have significantly contributed to the Cancer Center’s mission of reducing the burden of cancer in our region.

**Jennifer Villwock, MD**
Jennifer Villwock, MD, was invited to join the Editorial Board of *Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery*, a peer-reviewed journal that publishes on all aspects and sub-specialties of otolaryngology—head and neck surgery.

Dr. Villwock was also named Assistant Editor, Visual Abstracts, of *Laryngoscope Investigative Otolaryngology*, the companion journal to *The Laryngoscope*. 
ENT Grand Rounds

A monthly event showcasing new techniques and therapies, recent research findings, and exploration of clinical and scientific issues. ENT Grand Rounds is held in the Sudler Conference Room at the main KUMC campus. Dinner is provided, and continuing education credits are available. For more information about upcoming sessions, contact tquaethem@kumc.edu.

Chief Resident Presentations

January 28, 2019

Andrew Holcomb, MD
Ethics in Surgical Decision
Making on International Outreach Missions

Tran Le, MD
The Role of Biologics in the Medical Management of Chronic Rhinosinusitis

Matthew Shew, MD
New Advances and Controversies in Cochlear Implantation

Sreeya Yalamanchali, MD
Best Practices in Otolaryngology

Upcoming Speakers

< March 18, 2019
Noam Cohen, MD, PhD
The University of Pennsylvania
Ralph Butler Endowed Professor for Medical Research; Director, Rhinology Research, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Otorhinolaryngology; Chair of the Otorhinolaryngology Resident Research Committee, University of Pennsylvania Department of Otorhinolaryngology

> April 15, 2019
Stacey Ishman, MD, MPH
The University of Cincinnati
Surgical Director, Upper Airway Center; Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery
SAVE THE DATE

ENT in the Desert

January 31 - February 2, 2019

Scottsdale Marriott at McDowell Mountains • Scottsdale, Arizona

Co-hosted by:

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON
Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY - HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

Please join us for a 3-Day CME course focused on the general otolaryngologist. Best practice panels, evidence based recommendations, practice management, reimbursement landscape and a focus on new and evolving technologies. Nationally renowned speakers and Society Leaders

ENTINTHEDESERT.ORG

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