

OTOSCOPE Quarterly

A publication for friends and colleagues of Jefferson's Department of Otolaryngology– Head & Neck Surgery

The 14th James S. Reilly, MD Lecture in Pediatric Otolaryngology

The 14th James S. Reilly, MD Lecture in Pediatric Otolaryngology was held on February 24, 2023. Invited guest lecturer Rahul Shah, MD, MBA, Senior Vice President, Hospital-Based Specialties and Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics, Children's National Hospital, gave an inspiring presentation entitled "*Otolaryngologists as Leaders: Anticipate and Contain*" which provided a charge and tools to be better.

This forum provided the perfect opportunity to honor James Reilly, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery on the occasion of his retirement from clinical practice. Tributes from colleagues and trainees reflected on Dr. Reilly's compassion, wisdom and dedication.

Dr. Reilly's impressive academic and professional achievements span over several decades, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to medicine and patient care. He earned his AB degree in Biology from Fordham University in 1966, followed by his Masters in Biology from Boston College in 1968. He obtained his medical doctorate from Weill-Cornell University in 1972, and completed his internship in Internal Medicine, followed by a one-year residency in General Surgery at Roosevelt-St Luke's Hospital – Columbia University. He then pursued a residency in Otolaryngology at the University of Pennsylvania from 1974-1977, and a Fellowship in Pediatric Otolaryngology at the University of Pittsburgh and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh in 1982.

At Pittsburgh, Dr. Reilly rose through the ranks to serve as Associate Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology at



the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, before moving to the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Children's Hospital of Alabama. There, he was appointed Otolaryngologist-in-Chief and eventually rose to the rank of Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine in 1990. He joined the then-Alfred I.

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duPont Hospital for Children and served as Professor at Thomas Jefferson University, where he became Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology, followed by his service as Chair of the Department of Surgery from 1996-2013. He continued to practice in the Division of Pediatric Otolaryngology after his term as Chair and served on numerous committees at NCH-D, including his term as President of the Medical Staff in 2009.

Dr. Reilly's professional contributions extended beyond his local community, as he served on many national and international committees. He was a charter member of the American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology and received the Peter Koltai award from the American Broncho-Esophagological Association. He was also a Fellow in several esteemed societies, including the American College of Surgeons, The Triological Society, the American Laryngological Society, and the Society for Ear Nose and Throat Advances in Children, from which he received the Sylvan Stool Teaching Award. He served as Treasurer and President of the Inter-American Association of Pediatric Otolaryngology, and was a Senior

Examiner for the American Board of Otolaryngology.

Dr. Reilly was involved in the research community with multiple grants and published numerous papers and presentations on pediatric otolaryngology and patient safety. He played a significant role in innovating tonsillectomy techniques and preventing foreign-body ingestions. Throughout his career, Dr. Reilly was a respected leader who nurtured people, patients and programs. Under his guidance, the Division of Otolaryngology became a national academic and patient-care leader, and he oversaw the expansion of the Department of Surgery into a cohesive and collaborative practice.

Dr. Reilly has had a profound impact on the Jefferson Otolaryngology residency program, which has greatly benefited from the partnership with Nemours



Children's Hospital. Dr. Reilly's inspiration and wisdom made the commute to Wilmington well worth the effort for our trainees. He led by example and always took personal interest in the growth and development of each resident. Dr. Reilly embodies the epitome of a role model for patient care, education, and leadership. As he steps away to enjoy time with his loved ones, including his wife Barbara Kip, children, their partners and grandchildren, we wish him all the best. His impact on our program will be felt for years to come.

Jefferson Otolaryngology in the News



Nicole Aaronson, MD was featured in a *Forbes* magazine article about the best ways to treat an ear infection. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ForbesMarch2023>.

Stacey Baer, was interviewed for an article about Bell's Palsy *Bell's Palsy: Recognizing the Signs and Available Treatments* in Jefferson's online publication, *Living Well* (formerly the *Health Nexus*). Go to <https://tinyurl.com/BellsPalsyMar2023>.



Spotlight On Research

Jefferson Otolaryngology was well represented at the **2023 Triological Society Combined Sections Meeting** from January 26-28, 2023 where our attendings, residents and research fellows had the opportunity to present their research.

TRIOLOGICAL SOCIETY THESIS WITH DISTINCTION AWARD

CD8+ and FoxP3+ T Cell Intercellular Distances Differ in HPV+ and HPV- HNSCC and Predict Response to Anti PD-L1 Checkpoint Inhibition

Joseph Curry, MD, FACS



ORAL PRESENTATIONS/PANEL DISCUSSIONS

A Survey of Technical Preferences Among Microvascular Surgeons in the AHNS

Keisha Arielle Best, MS; Ramez Philips, MD; Aarti Agarwal, MD; Hamad Sagheer, MD; Yamil Selman, MD; Joseph Curry, MD

Panel: HPV – Prevention, Nonsurgical and Surgical Management and Next Generation of Surgical Trials for HPV+ OP CA

Moderators: Devraj Basu, MD PhD FACS; Niels C.T. Kokot, MD FACS, Los Angeles, CA

Panelists: Adam J. Luginbuhl, MD; Michael L. Hinni, MD FACS; Yelizaveta Shnayder, MD FACS; Baran D. Sumer, MD; David Goldenberg, MD FACS

Words Matter: Are We Using the Right Ones? A Systematic Review of Readability of Patient Education Materials

Maria Armache, MD; Richard Wu, MPH; Amy Leader, MD; Kristin Rising, MD, MSHP; Joshua Mease, BS; Leila Mady, MD, PhD, MPH

Complications and Swallowing Outcomes after Esophageal Reconstruction with an Intact Larynx

Aarti Agarwal, MD; Michelle Fiorella, BS; Ramez Philips, MD; Eric Barbarite, MD; Howard Krein, MD; Ryan Heffelfinger, MD

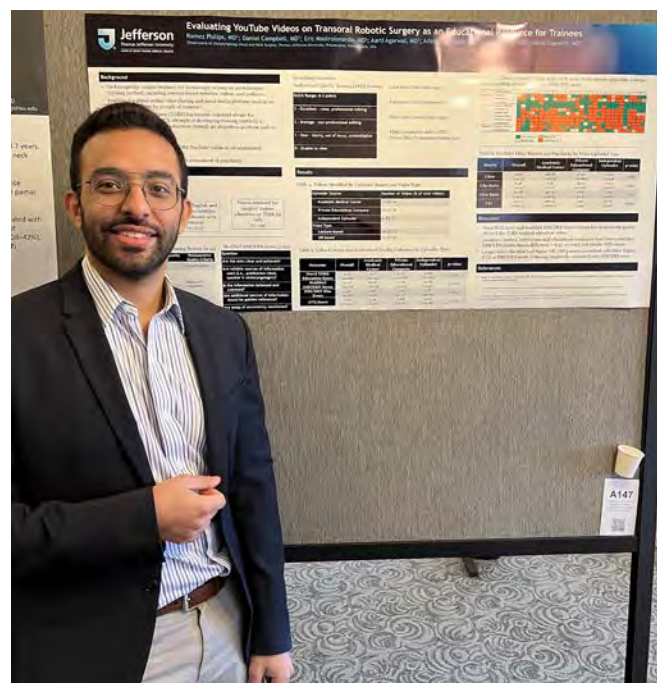
POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Olfactory Dysfunction and TikTok: The Underutilization of a Potent Educational and Health Information Resource

Joseph Shen Lu, BS; Richard Wu, MPH; Maria Armache, MD; Nicholas Rowan, MD; Leila Mady, MD, PhD, MPH

Botox and Facial Retraining Versus Selective Neurolysis as Treatments for Patients with Facial Synkinesis: Clinician Administered Quality of Life Outcomes

Joseph Shen Lu, BS; Aarti Agarwal, MD; Alekya Bheemreddy, BS; Arjun Ashok, MS; Eric Barbarite, MD; Ryan Heffelfinger, MD





Evaluating the Impact of Hemodynamic Support Measures on Head and Neck Free Flap Outcomes: A Large Database Study

Eric Van Mastrolonardo, MD; Joseph Lu, BS; Zachary Elliott, BS; Alexander Knops, MD; Zachary Urdang, MD, PhD; Joseph Curry, MD

Evaluating YouTube Videos on Transoral Robotic Surgery as an Educational Resource for Trainees

Ramez Philips, MD; Eric Mastrolonardo, MD; Dan Campbell, MD; Adam Luginbuhl, MD; Joseph Curry, MD; David Cognetti, MD

Efficacy of an Articulate Module: Tracheostomy and Laryngectomy Pearls for Healthcare Providers

Sruti Tekumalla, BA; Andrew Piacitelli, BS; Vanessa Christopher, MD; David M. Cognetti, MD

Association of Nicotine Dependence and New Adverse Life Events Following a Head and Neck Cancer Diagnosis: Disproportional Impact on Women and Underrepresented Minorities

Zach Urdang, MD PhD; K Gillmore, BA; Eric Mastrolonardo, MD; Dev Amin, MD; Joseph Curry, MD; Leila Mady, MD PhD MPH

Multimodal Virtual 3D Representation of Oral Tongue Cancer: A Case Study on the Feasibility of Combining Preoperative Virtual Reality Surgical Planning and Intraoperative ex vivo 3D Specimen Mapping

Richard Wu, MPH; Kayvon Sharif, BA; Victor Jegede, BS; Derek Mann, BS; Joseph Curry, MD; Michael Topf, MD



Congratulations to **Joseph Curry, MD** for his Consortium Pilot project, *A Novel MCT1 inhibitor-containing microbubble to target therapeutic effect and mitigate toxicity of AZD3965 in a murine oral squamous cell carcinoma model*, which was worked on alongside **Margaret A. Wheatley, PhD**, **John Eisenbrey, PhD**, **Ubaldo Martinez-Outschoorn, MD**, and research fellow **Victor Jegede** being selecting for funding by the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Research Executive Cabinet.

Christopher Fundakowski, MD gave a podium presentation on February 9, 2023 on circulating tumor DNA protocol at international multidisciplinary HPV congress in Spain. It is an honor to share our research efforts on an international level.



Jefferson Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery was well represented at the **North American Skull Base Society's 32nd Annual Meeting** from February 17-19, 2023. It was an honor to present our research efforts on a national level in Florida. We also had the opportunity to run into former trainees, including **Blair Barton, MD (RF '21)**. For a full list of our department presentations, visit <https://tinyurl.com/NASBSFeb2023>.



Sidney Kimmel Medical College student **Natalie Perlov** presented her research with **Julia Croce, AuD** and **Zachary Urdang, MD, PhD** at the Health Humanities Consortium hosted by the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine on March 17, 2023. The project, DEAFMed - Deaf Education and Awareness for Medical Students, centers on teaching health professionals and trainees about Deaf culture to improve communication and enhance the standard of care for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) patients. The group spoke on a panel about the connection between the humanities and medical education and how this model can be expanded to other patient populations.

Research Grants

We are excited to announce the recipients of 2023 Jefferson Otolaryngology Departmental Grants! The Grant Review Committee, including **Adam Luginbuhl, MD, David Cognetti, MD, Maurits Boon, MD, Joseph Curry, MD, Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA, Mindy Rabinowitz, MD, Irina Middleton, AuD and Meghan Crippen, MD (PGY-5)**, are to be commended for dedicating their time and effort into reviewing each department grant submission and selecting the award recipients. Thank you also to all who submitted applications. Below is a summary of the grant awards.

The Innovation Grant is intended to promote our departmental values of discovery, curiosity, and ingenuity. These awards will support concepts of basic, clinical, and population-based research to develop innovative solutions that prevent, treat or in some way address the diseases that are treated by otolaryngologists, audiologists, or speech and language pathologists.

The Education Grant is intended to promote our departmental values of professionalism, mentorship, and continual learning. These awards will support concepts that expand our educational model and/or advance professional development.

The Collaboration Grant is intended to promote our departmental values of diversity, inclusion and prioritization of team over self. These awards will support concepts that engage multiple disciplines or group of individuals across multiple departments or institutions.

INNOVATION AWARD **Dylan Bertoni, MD (PGY-3)**

Gait Analysis in Children Following Cochlear Implantation

Approximately 1.4 per 1,000 children are born with moderate to profound hearing loss. Cochlear implantation (CI) is the standard of care for the majority of children with severe to profound hearing loss and/or poor speech processing skills. Current FDA guidelines recommend cochlear implantation from 9 months on in children with profound bilateral sensorineural hearing loss, and research suggests implantation at 6 months of age is both safe and effective. CI has been shown to improve language development and can help children with profound hearing loss attend mainstream schools. Surgical implantation is generally safe and well-tolerated, with few complications. The vestibular system is also housed in

the inner ear, and there is a theoretical risk of damage during surgery. Prior research has established approximately 10% risk of vestibular dysfunction after CI. There is also an established link between baseline vestibular dysfunction and children who have hearing loss. Congenital or early loss of vestibular information has been shown to have a negative impact on postural milestones in childhood development. In adults, studies have shown no difference, or even minor improvement in balance and gait following cochlear implantation. There is a paucity of data, however, describing the impact of CI on gait development in children. Nemours hospital is uniquely positioned to study the impact of CI on gait through collaboration between

our CI team and the Gait and Motion Analysis Lab. The purpose of this project is to investigate if there are correlations between vestibular function and gait analysis, and subsequently to determine if the pattern of gait development in children is affected by the age of cochlear implantation in children with sensorineural hearing loss. The data from this research could ultimately affect the way families are counseled preoperatively, and the support provided to these children post-operatively.



INNOVATION AWARD **Dev Amin, MD (PGY-3)**

Targeted Anti-neurofibrosis in Peripheral Nerve Regeneration Using an in vivo Facial Nerve Injury Model

Peripheral nerve injuries resulting in loss of motor, sensory, or autonomic function can result in a devastating impact on patients' quality of life leading to lifelong morbidity. Neurofibrosis at the site of nerve injury significantly impairs regeneration by impeding axonal migration and altering perineural microvasculature. Using an *in vivo* rabbit facial nerve injury model, this investigation centers on the



development and implementation of a novel monoclonal antibody that targets the C-terminal telopeptide of the $\alpha 2$ chain of collagen I. This Anti-Collagen Antibody, which aims to directly inhibit neurofibrosis, will be sustainably delivered to the site of neural injury via a hydrogel embedded neural conduit. This research effort is a product of collaboration between the TJUH Otolaryngology and Orthopedic Surgery Departments, specifically the Fertala Lab. Our collaborative endeavor highlights a joint focus on discovering and delivering the future of peripheral nerve repair and advancing the treatment of otolaryngology patients who experience head and neck nerve injuries.

EDUCATION AWARD Richard Goldman, MD

Surgical Simulation Education Project

This grant award will support our ongoing efforts to expand and improve simulation education programs. Through collaborations with the Jefferson HealthDesign Lab, we are leveraging computer aided design (CAD) and 3D printing capabilities with the subject matter expertise of our surgeons to develop novel surgical simulators. The printed components are combined with biological tissues to create composite models that provide a higher fidelity experience and lower cost than cadaveric models and commercial simulators. We are also studying new ways to assess the quality and impact of surgical simulation in hopes of ultimately improving the education of our trainees and the safety of our patients.



COLLABORATION AWARD Christopher Fundakowski, MD

Telehealth in Head and Neck Cancer: Patient Perceptions and Development of a Shared Decision-Making Instrument

Despite high satisfaction, savings (time, social and financial), and good usability of technology, there is less acceptability of telehealth in head and neck cancer (HNC). No studies have investigated the acceptability of telehealth for post-treatment and survivorship care in head and neck surgical oncology. As such, little is known regarding barriers to telehealth in this population. We aim to fill this critical gap by engaging HNC patients who have completed treatment to evaluate perceptions related to telehealth surveillance care. We will perform semi-structured interviews

with 40 patients to understand their perspectives related to post-treatment and survivorship telehealth. In addition, we will assess patient-level financial toxicity and opportunity costs associated with oncology care. We will then utilize the qualitative interviews to guide development of a shared decision-making (SDM) tool for presenting hybrid telehealth surveillance care to patients with HNC, as is similarly currently performed for lung cancer screening. Following the completion of this study, we plan to utilize the findings and SDM tool to implement a

novel, hybrid surveillance pathway in clinical practice at Jefferson. The implementation of this pathway, which seeks to decrease the burden of in-person visits for patients and their caregivers, holds the potential to reduce financial toxicity and improve adherence to surveillance recommendations.



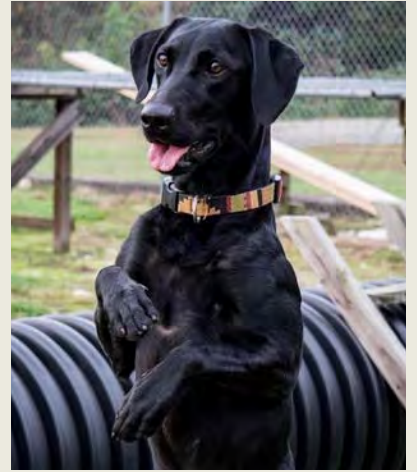
COLLABORATION AWARD Aarti Agarwal, MD (PGY-4)

Building a H&N Surgical Collaborative in Zambia

Our team is proposing a project directed at increasing collaboration between our department and the Zambian otolaryngologists to further the broader goal of patient care and health equity globally. Our goal for this proposal is two-fold: 1) to establish a collaborative surgical team to serve the patients of Lusaka, Zambia by conducting a systematic needs assessment and 2) to better understand the oropharyngeal cancer landscape to provide better head and neck cancer care and allocation of limited resources. At the end of the study, we will determine the prevalence of HPV+OPSCC in Zambia with a long-term goal of expanding the commitments of collaboration and innovation of Jefferson Otolaryngology. This grant will forward the mission of diversity, inclusion, and prioritization of team over self.



Mindy Rabinowitz, MD and her team have been working on a research study involving sinonasal inverted papilloma, or SNIP, a benign sinonasal lesion that has potential for malignant transformation. SNIP may prove challenging in both its initial diagnosis as well as in surveillance for recurrent disease. This collaboration between Jefferson Otolaryngology's rhinology division and Penn Vet Working Dog Center demonstrated that trained canines are able to detect a unique odor signature of SNIP-positive blood and nasal secretions. Dogs have been able to detect other disease states, however, this is the first study to do so for a sinonasal pathology, as well as the first to use nasal secretions for disease detection!



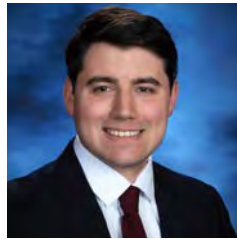
Achievements and Congratulations

Welcome 2023-24 Otolaryngology Interns

On Match Day, March 17, 2023, we learned the identities of our newest trainees who will join the department as PGY 1 residents in July. Welcome to the following:



Emma Da Ravin
University of Pennsylvania



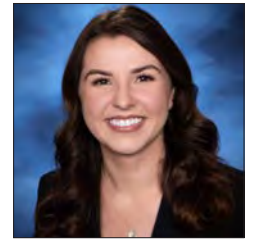
Leonard Estephan
Thomas Jefferson University



Ezra Pak-Harvey
Emory University



Bryan Renlo
Thomas Jefferson University



Reilly Scott
Thomas Jefferson University

Jason Wilmoth, MD and Kenneth Einhorn, MD are joining our new Jefferson Community Practice outpatient location:

Jefferson Otolaryngology — Abington
1235 Old York Road, Suite 122
Levy Medical Plaza
Abington, PA 19001



Kenneth Einhorn, MD



Jason Wilmoth, MD

We are also excited to announce a brand new and expanded space for our **Torresdale location** at:

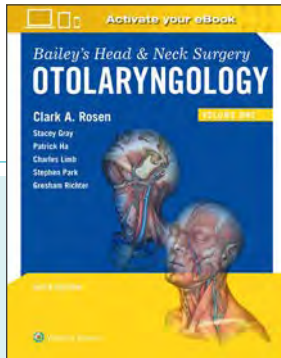
Jefferson Otolaryngology — Torresdale
3998 Red Lion Road, Suite 203
Philadelphia, PA 19114





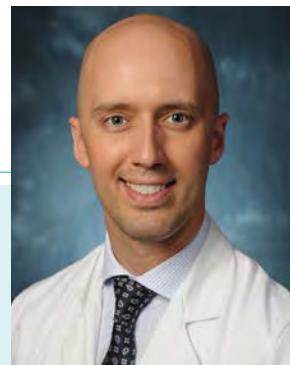
We are pleased to welcome **Patricia Dodson, BS, MHA, Director of Operations**, in the Department. Trish earned a Bachelor’s degree in Business Management from West Chester University and a Master’s Degree in Health Care Administration from Penn State University. She has extensive healthcare administration experience including having previously worked at Drexel University, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Crozer Health System.

In February, our sleep surgery team celebrated a significant milestone – the 500th upper airway stimulation procedure performed at Jefferson – a first in the nation. Congratulations to **Maurits Boon, MD** and **Colin Huntley, MD** who have made our sleep surgery program a leader in upper airway stimulation implants in the country! A special shout out to the residents, fellows, and OR staff and their contribution to making Jefferson the place to go for upper airway stimulation implantation.



Congratulations to **Maurits Boon, MD, David Cognetti, MD, Colin Huntley, MD** and **Udayan Shah, MD** who contributed to a recently

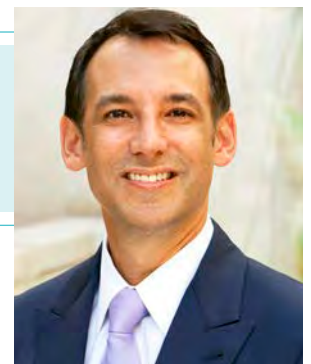
published textbook, Bailey’s Head & Neck Surgery: Otolaryngology. Their contribution will help provide knowledge to countless healthcare professionals for years to come.



Congratulations to **Christopher Fundakowski, MD**, who was named a *Top Doctor of the Main Line for 2022!* This award

reflects his dedication to providing the highest quality patient care.

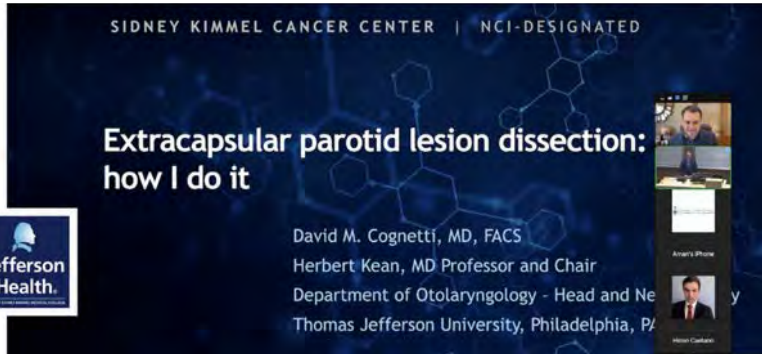
Congratulations to **Howard Krein, MD, PhD** who was recently promoted to Professor in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery by the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Executive Committee of Sidney Kimmel Medical College! The promotion will be official after Board approval in June.



Elizabeth Cottrill, MD and **Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA** were named *Castle Connolly Top Doctors Exceptional Women in Medicine Recipients 2023*. Their dedication to providing the highest quality of patient care is one of the many reasons they have earned this well-deserved award.

Otolaryngology Events: Looking Back

Joseph Spiegel, MD served as a panelist at an event sponsored by the American Bronchoesophagological Association on retrograde cricopharyngeal dysfunction, also known as “no burp syndrome,” which took place on January 31, 2023. Dr. Spiegel was joined by other experts from across the country.



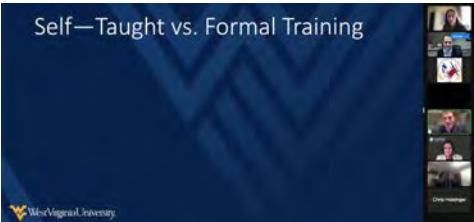
David Cagnetti, MD presented at the University of Toronto Otolaryngology Update 2023 on February 3, 2023. His topic of *Extracapsular Parotid Lesion Dissection* allowed him to discuss the hidden incision and contour correction techniques that we do so well at Jefferson.

Our faculty and residents had a great time meeting Jefferson Otolaryngology residency applicants during the “Second Look” on February 22, 2023. We had the opportunity to showcase the department and program, tour the future home of Jefferson Otolaryngology at the Honickman Center, and celebrate over a happy hour with the prospective residents.



Elizabeth Cottrill, MD and **Eric Mastrolonardo, MD (PGY-2)** attended the North American Society of Interventional Thyroidology meeting on March 11, 2023 where they were able to get hands-on training in radiofrequency ablation. We are excited for them to introduce this state of the art treatment to our practice.





David Cognetti, MD virtually presented at the American Head & Neck Society's TORS Webinar Series, "TORS: Optimizing

Outcomes, Managing Complications," on February 22, 2023. His presentation highlighted the advances our department has made in transoral robotic surgery for oropharyngeal cancer.

On March 24, 2023, **Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA** attended the New England Otolaryngology Society Meeting in Boston where she had a lecture on *Role of Phenotype, Endotype and Biologics in CRS* and was a member of panel for CRS Case Discussion.



Joseph Curry, MD moderated a webinar entitled *Current Challenges and Strategies in Head and Neck Surgical Clinical Trials: Population Health Challenges and Inequities* for the American Head and Neck Society on March 8, 2023. The webinar, which coincidentally landed on International Women's Day, featured an all women panel including former department members **Anne Kane, MD (HNF '13)** and **Leila Mady, MD, PhD!**

David Cognetti, MD gave the Elbyrne G. Gill Lecture at the Virginia Society of Otolaryngology Annual Meeting on April 1, 2023. He is pictured with **Ashley Schroeder, MD**, President of the VSO, and he is holding a Jefferson Cup, which was a special gift of gratitude given the name of our institution! To learn more about the Jefferson Cup, go to <https://tinyurl.com/JeffersonCupApril2023>.



Upcoming Events

MAY 17, 2023, 12pm - 5pm in Room 505, Hamilton Building

Annual Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery Research Symposium

JAMES DANIERO, MD (R'13)

Featuring guest moderator and Jefferson Otolaryngology residency alumnus James Daniero, MD (R'13)



SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

Annual William Keane, MD Lecture in Head & Neck Surgery

NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Thyroid and Parathyroid Disease Update 2023

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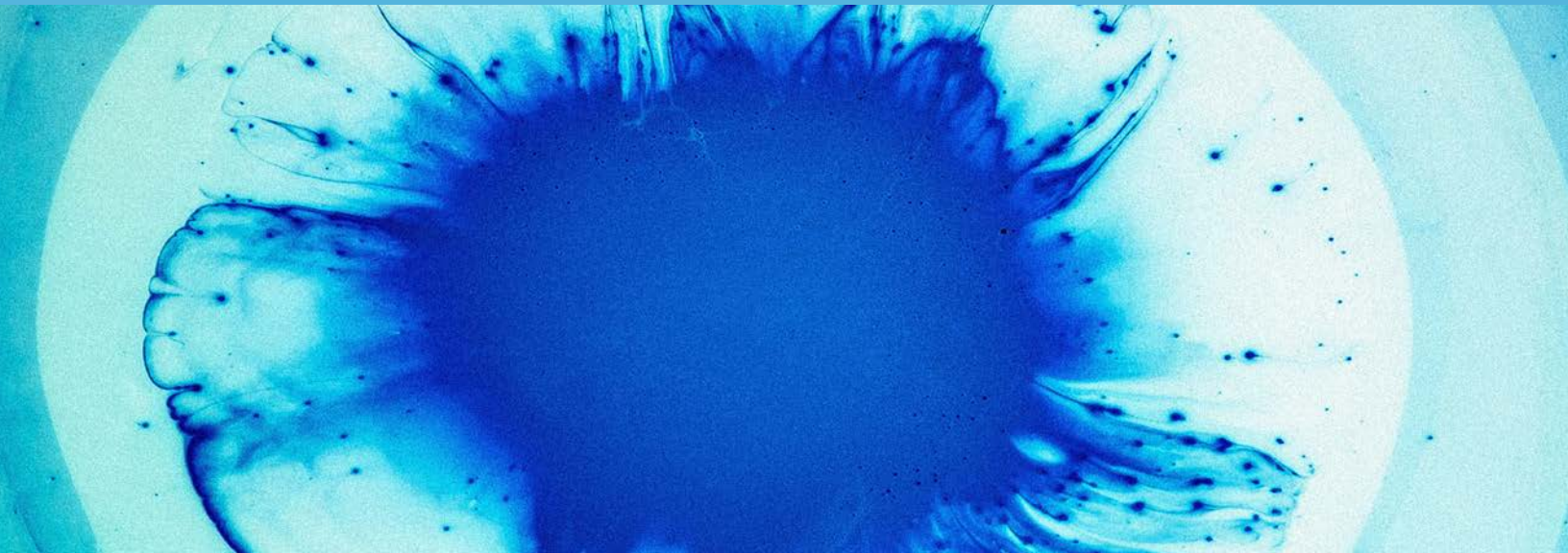
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