

OTOSCOPE Quarterly

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

Welcome to the Department, Kathleen M. Tibbetts, MD and Jacob B. Hunter, MD

We are pleased to announce that **Kathleen M. Tibbetts, MD** and **Jacob B. Hunter, MD** will join Jefferson Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery in February, 2023.



Kathleen M. Tibbetts, MD joins the Department's Laryngology Division as Associate Professor of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. Dr. Tibbetts earned her medical degree at Washington University in Saint Louis School of Medicine in Saint Louis, MO and completed her otolaryngology residency training at Albert Einstein

College of Medicine in Bronx, NY. Following residency, Dr. Tibbetts completed a fellowship in laryngology and voice disorders at the University of Texas Voice Center in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, TX. Most recently, Dr. Tibbetts was a member of the faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX. Dr. Tibbetts has published on a variety of topics related to the treatment of patients with laryngeal disorders. She also serves as an ad hoc reviewer for several scientific journals and as a member of the American Board of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery's Task Force for New Materials as an item writer. Dr. Tibbetts will see patients with voice and swallowing disorders.



Jacob B. Hunter, MD will join the Department as Associate Professor of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and will additionally serve as Chief of the Otology Division. Dr. Hunter comes to us from the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas, Texas where he was on the faculty as Associate Professor.

Dr. Hunter earned his medical degree at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, NY and stayed on to complete his residency training in the Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. He subsequently completed a two-year neurotology fellowship at the Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Hunter is well published and lectures frequently, both nationally and internationally, on cochlear implantation and middle ear surgery. His research interests include the relationship between hearing loss and cognition, cochlear implantation, and vestibular Schwannoma, in addition to barriers of hearing healthcare. Dr. Hunter will see patients with hearing and balance disorders.

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Farewell to Leila Mady, MD, PhD, MPH

In November, 2022 we bid farewell to Leila Mady, MD, PhD, MPH. While we are sad to have Dr. Mady leave, we are grateful for the contributions that she made, specifically to the head and neck and research programs, and our community outreach efforts with the mobile screening van during her time in the department.

Jefferson Otolaryngology in the News



Adam Luginbuhl, MD was featured in a NFL Crucial Catch video during which a former NFL reporter refers to Jefferson as "the place to be" for the treatment of head and neck cancer. The video showcases our expertise and raises awareness of the importance of cancer screenings. Click here to view the video [NFL Crucial Catch Ron Rivera](#) or go to tinyurl.com/NFLRonRivera

Alexandra Costlow, AuD, Clinical Audiologist in the department was interviewed by the Health Nexus on what you need to know about over-the-counter hearing aids. The article stresses the importance of staying in the know about your options before purchasing hearing aids. [Click here to learn more](#) or go to tinyurl.com/OverTheCounterHearingAids



Congratulations to **Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA, Gurston Nyquist, MD, Marc Rosen, MD and Mindy Rabinowitz, MD** for their paper being featured on the cover of the



largest Rhinology journal, the International Forum of Allergy & Rhinology. [Click here to read their publication](#) or go to tinyurl.com/ArticleOnRhinologyCover

Spotlight On Research



Congratulations to **Christopher Fundakowski, MD** on the awarding of a Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center pilot award in the amount of \$20,000 to support his project, "Post-surgical circulating cell-free tumor tissue modified viral (TTMV)-HPV DNA clearance kinetics."



Elizabeth Cottrill, MD participated at the 91st Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association held in Montréal from October 19-23, 2022. Dr. Cottrill was a panelist for the "Difficult Benign Thyroid Cases" discussion during the Surgical Symposium.

SICILIANO LECTURESHIP

New and Old Treatments for Oral Cavity Cancer

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Lecture • 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Refreshments

This is a hybrid Lecture
 BST 5120 Lecture Hall, University of Pittsburgh
 To participate via zoom, visit eyandear.org

Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with details to join the lecture.

FEATURED LECTURER
David M. Cognetti, MD, FACS
 The Herbert Katz, MD Professor and Chair
 Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
 Sidney Kimmel Medical College/Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center
 Thomas Jefferson University
 President, Pennsylvania Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery

Made possible by the John Vincent and Robert Schaeffer Endowments Fund
 Dedicated to the Advancement of New Treatments and Care for Head and Neck Cancer



David Cognetti, MD presented the 2022 Siciliano Lectureship at his medical school and fellowship alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, on October 11, 2022. He presented his topic, “New and Old Treatments for Oral Cavity Cancer.” Dr. Cognetti is pictured with three generations of UPMC Chairs, Dr. Jonas Johnson (2006-2022), Dr. Jose Zevallos (2022-present), and Dr. Eugene Myers (1972-2006) (l to r).



Our department members were present for the Translational Cellular Oncology (TaCO) annual retreat on October 19, 2022. **Joseph Curry, MD** presented on the development of the clinical and translational research partnership in the Thomas Jefferson University’s HNSCC working group. Research fellow **Victor Jegede** and medical student **Joann Butkus** presented their research, and **Adam Luginbuhl, MD** served as moderator for the “Community Leaders & Patient Advocates Bidirectional Feedback” panel.

The **Division of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery** was well represented at the 2022 American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Annual Meeting in Washington, DC from October 20-23, 2022. It was a nice opportunity to connect with some of our resident and fellowship alumni as well as present our current research.





Joseph Curry, MD is the Vice Chair for the American Head & Neck Society's Population Health Research Service and helped coordinate a webinar addressing head and neck surgical clinical trials October 26, 2022. Dr. Curry moderated the questions from the audience which spawned an excellent discussion. Several of the talks cited work by our group at Jefferson including **Adam Luginbuhl, MD's** trial featured on the pictured slide.



Gurston Nyquist, MD gave a lecture on CSF leaks at the Kaplan Medical Center in Israel on October 30, 2022, which was attended by faculty, residents and the CEO of the hospital system there. We are fortunate to maintain a collaborative relationship in medical education with Kaplan Medical Center. Earlier in the year, we hosted Kaplan resident **Dr. Tom Raz** at Jefferson for two months.



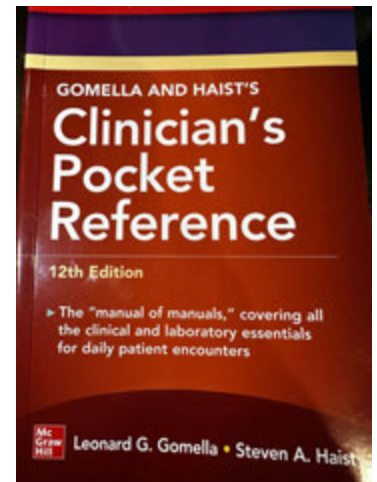
David Cognetti, MD was in San Francisco for two University of California at San Francisco meetings. Dr. Cognetti presented "Surgical Equipment and Managing Sialendoscopic Failures" at the Sialendoscopy and Surgery for Salivary Obstruction Hands on Course on November 10, 2022 and "Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy in Oral Cavity Cancer" at the Head and Neck Disease 2022 Meeting on November 11, 2022. Pictured left to right is Jeffrey Houlton, MD, Arjun Joshi, MD, M. Allison Ogden, MD, William Ryan, MD, Jolie Chang, MD **David Cognetti, MD**, and Lane Squires, MD.



Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA attended the Florida Combined Otolaryngology Meeting in Boca Raton from November 11 – 13, 2022. Dr. Toskala served on two panels: "Legends of our Time" and "Allergy Management."

Alumni News

Leonard Gomella, MD, Chair of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College Department of Urology recently released the Clinician's Pocket Reference which serves as a valuable resource for patient encounters across multiple specialties for medical and advanced practice provider students who are beginning clinical rotations. **Colin Huntley, MD (R '16)** and **Mark Chaskes, MD (R '21)**, **Kate Landers, MD (R '22)** contributed to this guide for otolaryngology-specific information.



“ HEY –
JEFFERSON
OTO ALUMNI
”

“ What are you up to?
What's the good news? ”

“ We want to
hear from you! ”

Email your news
and happenings to
Joanne.Gauthier@Jefferson.edu

Achievements and Congratulations



Elina Toskala, MD appointed Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs

Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA has been appointed Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Toskala has served as Chair of the Department's Appointments and Promotions Committee since 2020 and has been instrumental in formalizing the processes associated with the committee's charge.

Dr. Toskala is an internationally recognized leader in rhinology and a champion for women in otolaryngology. In addition to her busy clinical practice and research endeavors, Dr. Toskala also serves as Chair of the Women in Rhinology Section for the American Rhinologic Society as well as Medical Director of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery for Jefferson New Jersey.

As Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs, Dr. Toskala will continue to chair the Appointments and Promotions Committee. She will have oversight of our departmental faculty's mentorship plan, serve on faculty search committees and the new grants committee, as well as collaborate with the committee chairs to enhance the department's diversity, wellness, and philanthropic growth.



Congratulations to **Patrick Barth, MD** for his promotion to Associate Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery and Pediatrics at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University.



Gurston Nyquist, MD has been named the Financial Officer of the Skull Base and Orbital Surgery Section of the American Rhinologic Society.



Richard Goldman, MD was selected to receive a 2022 Sidney Kimmel Medical College Faculty Award – Dean’s Award for Excellence in Education. The award was presented to Dr. Goldman at the annual SKMC Faculty Awards Ceremony which was held on November 2, 2022.

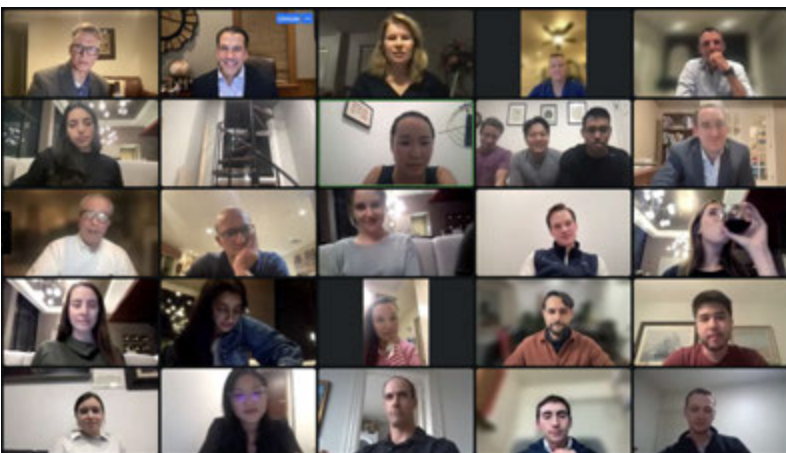


Congratulations to **Rebecca Chiffer, MD** for being recognized as one of the Pennsylvania Medical Society's Top 40 Physicians Under 40!



Congratulations to **Aarti Agarwal, MD (PGY4)** for receiving the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery Foundation Humanitarian Travel Grant. This grant will help fund Dr. Agarwal’s outreach for mission trips providing healthcare to those in need.

Otolaryngology Events: Looking Back



Our Jefferson Otolaryngology Residency Open House had a great turnout on **October 8, 2022** with over 100 medical students from many different programs in attendance to learn about our program. Thank you to all the residents, especially **Jenny Ma, MD (PGY5)** who played a big part in coordinating the event, and the faculty who were present to highlight what makes our residency program truly a cut above the rest. A special shout out to the "Beesting Boys," **Ayan Kumar, MD (PGY4)** **Jim Han, MD (PGY4)** and **Alex Duffy, MD (PGY4)** who were the life of the party!

Temporal Bone Dissection Course

The Otolaryngology Division had a fun day on Saturday, October 22, 2022 teaching our residents at the temporal bone dissection course. **Rebecca Chiffer, MD, Dennis Fitzgerald, MD** and **Thomas Willcox, MD** ran the course with the assistance of our ENT colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania, Jason Brant, MD and Ally Quimby, MD who were kind enough to host our group in the temporal bone lab at UPenn. We are excited that our new temporal bone lab will begin construction soon. This will enhance the hands-on experience of our residents and allow us to return the favor to UPenn next year!



Ryan Heffelfinger, MD and **Stacey Baer, OTR/L** gave a presentation on "Evaluation and Management of Facial Nerve Paralysis" at the Neurosurgery Grand Rounds on November 18, 2022.

David Cognetti, MD presented virtually at the Foundation for Head and Neck Oncology Congress in Guwahati, India from his hotel room in Chicago on November 5, 2022. The time difference placed the presentation at 2:30 a.m. CST!

David Cognetti, MD virtually presented at the International Conference of the Korean Society for Head and Neck Oncology in Seoul, South Korea on November 24, 2022. His presentation, "Novel Strategies in R/M HNSCC," highlighted our advanced research in head and neck cancer treatment. It is an honor to share our departmental research on an international level such as this.

Jefferson Otolaryngology Holiday Party

Faculty and staff enjoyed our annual holiday party which was held at the Adventure Aquarium on December 9, 2022. We even got to meet Jefferson, the famous penguin. It was a great way to start off the holiday season and celebrate another year of departmental growth and accomplishments. We are looking forward to another great year!



Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 24, 2023

Annual James Reilly, MD Lecture in Pediatric Otolaryngology

RAHUL SHAH, MD, MBA

Senior Vice President, Chief Quality and Safety Officer, Children's National Hospital–Based Specialties Center, Washington, DC

There will also be a tribute to Dr. Reilly on his retirement.



APRIL 12, 2023

Annual Louis Clerf Lecture in Otolaryngology

ROBSON CAPASSO, MD

*Chief of Sleep Surgery,
Professor of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery,
Associate Dean of Research,
Stanford University School of Medicine*



APRIL 21, 2023



Giving Back

Department of Otolaryngology Philanthropy Update

By Adam Luginbuhl, MD, Committee Chair

Philanthropy in the department continues to find ways to meet our main objectives which are to find creative ways to utilize the money entrusted to us to advance our mission and develop and cultivate areas of passion that will lead to further fund raising.

It remains our vision that this would be a part of all our divisions' and committees' agendas. When we have the programs in place, the conversations with our grateful patients are energizing and filled with excitement for a shared goal.

We have recently created the Head and Neck Surgery Innovation Fund through Dr. Joseph Curry's augmented reality and virtual surgical planning initiative. Our Audiology team, lead by Sarah Lively, AuD, has raised and utilized over \$5,000 to support our work in Africa and the Ashley Greywoode Fellowship has sponsored one of our residents this year. Over the past year our CHANCE Fund has raised and utilized over \$35,000 to support multiple trips to Africa and Belize. Our David's Dream and Believe Fund has helped over 143 of our patients experiencing financial hardship with over \$60,000 in individual grants paying for transportation to heating and electric bills. Our Research and Education Committees continue to support a variety of projects, as well as our Underrepresented Minorities in Oto Fund. Support for the Department in Jefferson's new Honickman Center has exceeded \$5.8 million in donations.

We are looking forward to reporting on the multiple other innovative ideas coming up as we roll out the Jefferson Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery Grant Application: Driving Health Care Advancement and Equity Through Collaboration, Education and Innovation.

If you or someone you know is interested to learn more about making a philanthropic gift, please reach out to a member of the department or directly to Andy Kitaeff in the Office of Institutional Advancement @ Andrew.Kitaeff@jefferson.edu. Together we can advance our mission to improve lives and build even more meaningful relationships with the individuals and families for whom we care.



On October 16, 2022, family, friends, neighbors, and four-legged friends, too all walked for a great cause at the annual **Pennsylvania Walk4Hearing** which was held at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. **Team JeffEARson** raised over **\$2500** to bring attention to hearing loss and promote the importance of hearing health! Thank you to everyone who came out to the event to represent the Jefferson Oto Family!

Jefferson Otolaryngology team members from across all locations collected toys for families in need this Holiday season. As you can see from the photos, a tremendous amount of toys were donated to make for happy children in the Philadelphia region. Thank you for your generosity to all who donated.



Mission Trip to Kenya

A team from the Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery including **Adam Luginbuhl, MD (Faculty)**, **Arielle Thal, MD (H&N Fellow)**, **Eric Mastrodonardo, MD (PGY-2)**, **Sarah Lively, AuD (audiologist)**, **Tammy Le (audiology extern)**, and **Manfred Thomas (scribe)** traveled to Kenya, Africa to provide patient care in head and neck surgery and audiology. Our surgical team was joined by staff from the host hospital, Dr. Chege and scrub team members Moses and Ester. It was a very rewarding mission trip and a great opportunity to collaborate with the talented medical team from abroad.



Jefferson Otolaryngology Head and Neck Cancer Mobile Screening Events

Members of the Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery and the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center were at FDR Park in South Philadelphia on October 7, 2022 for a head and neck cancer screening event. 76er's Assistant Coach Dave Joerger was on hand to support the event. We have participated in a series of screening events this year which have been made



possible by a \$76,000 donation by the Sixers in honor of Coach Joerger who battled head and neck cancer last year. Special recognition to **Leila Mady, MD, PhD, MPH** and **Zachary Urdang, MD** for their efforts in organizing the screening.



Another successful day for the head and neck cancer mobile screening van was held on October 20, 2022 at the Dietz and Watson Headquarters. Dietz and Watson is the generous sponsor of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Screening Van. Thank you to research fellows **Maria Amache, Victor Jegede, Sruti Tekumalla, and Ramez Philips, MD (PGY5)** who screened 215 people, our largest event ever!



Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery Faculty

Top Row (L to R): Thomas Willcox, MD, Ryan Heffelfinger, MD, Colin Huntley, MD, Kyle Fisher, MD, David Rosen, MD, Dennise Fitzgerald, MD, Christopher Fundakowski, MD, Richard Goldman, MD, Gurston Nyquist, MD.

Middle Row (L to R): Joseph Spiegel, MD, Mindy Rabinowitz, MD, Rebecca Chiffer, MD, Elizabeth Cottrill, MD, Paul Johnson, MD, Leila Mady, MD, PhD, MPH, Gregory Epps, MD, Adam Luginbuhl, MD, Brian McGettigan, MD, Edmund Pribitkin, MD, MBA.

Front Row (L to R): Howard Krein, MD, PhD, Marc Rosen, MD, Joseph Curry, MD, David Cognetti, MD, Maurits Boon, MD, Elina Toskala, MD, PhD, MBA, Aykut Unsal, DO, Danielle DeMaio-DeAngelis, MHA (Administrator).



Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery

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Spring 2022

<https://bit.ly/3PaAchY>



Summer 2022

<https://bit.ly/3CMHwMm>



Fall 2022

<https://bit.ly/3TVepNr>