The OMFS Newsletter
Winter 2014-15
Volume 17, Issue 1

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A review of milestones and accomplishments from OMFS faculty, fellows, and residents [read more].

Birth Announcements:
Birth announcements and other happy additions to the OMFS extended family! [read more]

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Mark Your Calendars:

September 28 - October 3, 2015
AAOMS 97th Annual Meeting,
Scientific Sessions and Exhibition
Washington, DC

Annual Mass General Alumni Dinner -- TBD

Got news?

We love to hear from our alumni. Please send your news and other updates to: oralsurgery@partners.org.

Chief’s Corner

Leonard B. Kaban, DMD, MD

As I begin my 22nd year as Chief of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) at MGH, I would like to wish all our faculty, staff, residents, fellows, students and friends a happy and healthy New Year. This year is very special for me as it will be my last as the leader of this wonderful Department.

In September 2014, I announced my intention to step down as Chief as soon as a successor is found and appointed. A Search Committee has been formed by the MGH and Harvard Medical School and the hope is to identify and appoint the new Chief by the fall of this year.

I am happy with this decision, having been the longest serving Chief in the history of the Department. In total, I will have been an OMFS Chairman for 32 years, including my 10 at UCSF. It is now time for me to make way for a younger generation of leaders.

To be clear, I am not retiring and I look forward to being relieved of my “administrative burden” so I can devote more time to patient care, teaching and research. I will be available to help the new Chief, in any way he or she sees fit, but I will not get in the way.

I have given my best effort to fulfilling my often stated goal of preserving the Department and improving it for the challenges of the future. The consistent tradition of MGH Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery excellence, for the past 142 years (1872-present), will help us get through this transition and the uncertain times for academic medicine and the health care system that lie ahead.

The Department has been very busy since our last Newsletter.

In September, the Annual AAOMS meeting was held in Honolulu, Hawaii. As usual, the MGH was well represented. The following faculty, residents and students presented abstracts and gave invited presentations:

Poster Session:

- Retrospective Assessment of Patient Satisfaction After Orthognathic Surgery Kenneth Kufta BS; Zachary S. Peacock DMD, MD; Sung-Kiang Chuang DMD, MD, DMSc; Lawrence M. Levin DMD, MD

Oral Abstracts:

- Orthognathic Surgery in Patients Over Age 40: Incidence, Indications, Outcomes; Cameron C.Y. Lee BS; Zachary S. Peacock DMD, MD; Katherine P. Klein DMD, MS; Leonard B. Kaban DMD, MD
Forum on Cleft, Craniofacial and Pediatric OMS: Pediatric Obstructive Airway:

- Tongue-Base Obstruction: Robin Sequence and Mandibular Retrognathia, Cory M. Resnick DMD, MD.

This year the meeting, as most of you know, was dedicated to our own Walter C. Guralnick. The dedication tribute, the most important award given by AAOMS, was presented at the opening ceremony. Unfortunately, Dr. Guralnick was unable to attend but I accepted the award on his behalf; the transcript and video of Dr. Guralnick’s speech will be available soon on the OMFS website.

We had our annual alumni dinner, which was well attended by over 30 alumni, faculty and residents, at Mirimoto Waikiki Restaurant on September 11. The Asian food was spectacular as were the company, camaraderie and stories told. I look forward to seeing many of you at the next annual AAOMS meeting in Washington, DC. Please make it a point to attend the alumni dinner.

In early October 2014, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Annual Clinical Congress was held in San Francisco. I was very proud to be present for the induction of Zach Peacock, Ed Lahey and Cory Resnick as Fellows of the ACS. The total for our full time faculty is now 6 Fellows (LBK, Bonnie Padwa and Bruce Donoff).

Also, the OMFS Section of the ACS organized a multidisciplinary symposium on Complications of Mandibular Fractures. Cory Resnick presented a paper entitled: Complications of Condylar Fractures in Children. The session was well attended and received excellent reviews. In addition, Zach Peacock presented a paper entitled: Genetic Analysis of Giant Cell Tumors of the Axial/Appendicular and Maxillofacial Skeleton at the prestigious Owen H. Wangensteen Surgical Forum. Zach did a terrific job and his paper was very well received.

We again had a good number of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons inducted as Fellows at this meeting and our group of OMFS Fellows continues to grow. I encourage all our alumni to apply for Fellowship in the ACS. It is very important for our specialty to have a seat at the decision making table for the future of health care and the ACS is the best vehicle for us.

At the end of October, I was overwhelmed, humbled, honored and proud to be celebrated by a Festschrift organized by the MGH and Boston Children’s Hospital under the direction of Tom Dodson, John Mulliken, and Bonnie Padwa. I want to thank Ms. Kara Stone, OMFS Administrative Assistant, for her hard work and dedication in executing this event; Suzanne Byrne in our office; John McGillivray, OMFS Administrative Director; and Greg Pauly, MGH Senior Vice-President for their support in overseeing the event.
A Festschrift is derived from a European scholarly tradition. It is a noun with two meanings: a celebration to honor a scholar characterized by his friends and colleagues delivering a series of lectures (symposium); and a publication based on the proceedings of the symposium.

The weekend started with a wonderful reception at the MGH/Paul Russell, MD Museum of Medical History on Friday evening. The symposium, at the MGH O’Keefe Auditorium, consisted of papers all day on Friday and Saturday and Sunday morning.

A dinner Saturday evening at the Exchange Conference Center provided a time for socializing and reminiscing. Tom Dodson, John Mulliken and Bonnie Padwa served as moderators for the Symposium.

![L to R: Dr. Thomas B. Dodson, Dr. Bonnie Padwa, Dr. Leonard B. Kaban and Dr. John B. Mulliken](image)

John, Tom, Scott Bennion and I each said a few words at the dinner. Almost 200 participants attended from all over the United States and from Europe, Scandinavia, the Middle East and Asia. More pictures from the Festschrift will be available on the [OMFS website](#). An email notice will be sent when they are ready for viewing.

I am forever and deeply grateful to the participants who took the time from their busy schedules and made the effort to travel to Boston for this Festschrift. I am also grateful for the support of both hospitals and for the AAOMS, which has agreed to publish the papers from the symposium as a Supplement to the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

During a career in academic OMFS spanning over 40 years and 32 years as a Department Chair, it is easy to lose the big picture for the day-to-day details. This Festschrift highlighted for me all the extraordinary friendships, collaborations, mentoring relationships that I have been fortunate and privileged to enjoy during this time. I have had wonderful mentors in Walter Guralnick, Joseph Murray and Judah Folkman.

I have also been fortunate in the strong support provided by the Deans I worked under: John Greene at UCSF and my long time friend and colleague Bruce Donoff at HSDM. John Mulliken and I have enjoyed a close personal and an amazingly productive professional relationship. Our work together, during the formative years of our careers, has had a lasting effect on my development as a surgeon. During the wonderful Brigham and Children’s Hospital years, Joe Upton, Myron Belfer and Dottie MacDonald were also an integral part of our team, important colleagues and collaborators and have remained my good
friends. Another person I have to acknowledge, who started with me during the Brigham and Children’s years and came to work for me at MGH when I returned in 1994, is Debra Sybertz. Debbie has been my patient care coordinator, secretary, administrative assistant, friend and colleague all these years and she has contributed greatly to my successes.

Finally, Maria Troulis and Tom Dodson have been my two most important mentees and then colleagues and friends. I have enjoyed helping and working with other faculty members at MGH and UCSF and I am happy that I have played some role in shaping the careers of Bonnie Padwa and Brian Schmidt. I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to work with such a talented group of students, residents, fellows and colleagues and that we have accomplished so much together. I have loved my work and my career and I hope this event stimulates other young people to pursue academic oral and maxillofacial surgery as a career. Our future depends on you.

More pictures from the Festschrift coming soon, on the OMFS website.
Also, during the past 6 months the Department has had 2 external reviews of our residency programs and a ten-year external review of the overall Department conducted by Harvard Medical School.

1) **OMFS Resident Training Program**
   CODA (Commission on Dental Accreditation) conducted its Accreditation Site visit for the OMFS Residency Program in October. I am happy to inform you that for the 2nd time in a row, during Dr. Maria Troulis’ tenure as Program Director, we received “Full Accreditation with No Recommendations”. We should all be proud that the site visiting team was very complimentary of the organization and curriculum of the program, the quality and quantity of the resident experience, as well as the quality of the residents and faculty. They remarked, informally, that they used this site visit as a learning experience, in running a program, for themselves. Congratulations to Maria, the residents and the faculty.

2) **Orofacial Pain Resident Training Program**
   Under the direction of Steven Scrivani and with the help, advice and experience of the dedicated faculty (David Keith and Jeffry Shaefer) an application to begin a hospital-based Orofacial Pain Residency Program was written and approved by the MGH Committee on Training and Education and the MGH agreed to fund the Program. The application was accepted by CODA and the MGH was site visited in October. The Committee was very complimentary of the content of the program, the faculty, the off-service rotations and the hospital support. The verbal report was that the Program will be “Accredited with No Recommendations”. The applicant pool for the program was very strong and its first resident was accepted and will start in July 2015. This fulfills a long-term goal for David Keith and the Department and I am proud that it was accomplished during my tenure as Chief. Congratulations to Steve, David and Jeff!!

3) **Harvard Medical School Review of the Department**
   At the request of the President of the MGH, Peter Slavin, MD and the President and CEO of the Mass General Physicians Organization, David Torchiana, MD, a Committee of 3 Professors of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery outside of the MGH and Harvard was selected by the Office of the Dean for Faculty, Nancy Tarbell, MD to review the MGH/HSDM Department this year. Their charge was to evaluate and comment on all the activities and components of the Department over a 10 year period and to make recommendations for the future. This review was a major undertaking for us and, just to give you an idea of the task, the report was 170 pages long (single spaced) and there were 46 detailed Appendices. This was the first review of the Department of OMFS by the hospital and medical school in our history but has been routine every 10 years for the other Departments. I think that this was a useful exercise for the Department and it cemented our status as a Department at MGH, equal to and judged by the same standards as the other Departments.

   It took the Department 6 months to prepare the documents which included: 1) Historical Background and Context of the Department at MGH, HSDM and HMS. 2) Report on Patient Care activities at all sites. 3) Report on Teaching Activities for all programs in the Department. 4) Report on Research Activities and Funding. 5) Governance and Organization of the Department. 6) Administration and Finances. 7) Areas of excellence and major accomplishments. 8) Barriers to success. 9) Opportunities.
I must publicly acknowledge Maria Troulis, without whose help I would not have been able to organize, prepare and produce this report. This was truly a team effort with contributions from our Division leaders in Dentistry, the GPR program, Orofacial Pain, Children’s Hospital Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the Pre-doctoral Division at HSDM. Finally, I want to thank Bonnie Bounds, Administrative Assistant, John McGillivray, Administrative Director and our other administrative staff (Kara Stone and Suzanne Byrne) for their commitment and work on this report. The report itself is confidential but I can provide some highlights from my debriefing interview with the President of MGH, President and CEO of Mass General Physicians Organization, Dean of HMS, Dr. Jeffrey Flier and Dean for Faculty at HMS.

Going forward, I will use the data gathered for this review for a “Twenty year Report on the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at MGH and Harvard”. This will be published as a monograph, similar to the Ten Year Report you all received in 2004. What follows here is a brief overview of the HMS Review.

The Committee concluded that the MGH Department is indeed one of the strongest academic programs in the country as evidenced by clinical, teaching and research activities. They remarked that the Department was well run and that we have a strong financial position. Our research productivity as evidenced by presentations at scientific meetings, grants over the years and publication record is strong. The residency program by the recent CODA reviews meets requirements for accreditation and the evaluation of the Program by residents, faculty and colleagues at MGH was very positive. Teaching programs were also evaluated as very strong.

The Committee pointed out that we have significant space challenges. The current clinic space is inadequate for our patient volume and for our ability to teach our residents. We also do not have adequate space to increase our resident and faculty numbers, which we need to do to accommodate our volume. The Committee recommended that the hospital provide an increase in clinical and academic space to allow the Department to maintain its current status and to evolve successfully in the future.

The Committee pointed out, that while our research productivity is strong our extramural funding has been inconsistent. They recommended that we consider hiring full time research faculty in the future to help achieve more consistent funding and also to help clinician scholars accomplish their research goals.

The Committee recommended that we increase our activity in head and neck oncology and that we recruit and hire an oral and maxillofacial surgeon trained in head and neck oncology.

The Committee pointed out the challenges we will have to maintain our momentum during the coming transition period while awaiting the appointment and arrival of a new Chief.

Overall, the report was objective and extremely positive, accurately reflecting our strengths and challenges and making constructive recommendations. Feedback I received from Dean Flier, Dean Nancy Tarbell, Peter Slavin and David Torchiana was very positive and indicated that they were satisfied with the state of the Department.
There will be more news and updates to come in the summer newsletter.

*Leonard B. Kaban, DMD, MD*

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Department Highlights

**Dr. Katherine Klein**, Orthodontist, was appointed as Vice President of the Charles River Study Club of the Metropolitan District of the Massachusetts Dental Society, and was selected as guest speaker for the Boston University Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry Student Orientation.

**Dr. Jeffry Shaefer** was appointed to the ADA's CODA Review Committee for Post-Doctoral General Dentistry Education by the American Academy of Orofacial Pain. It's a 4 year appointment.

**Dr. Saeed Kashefi** (MGH Dental Group) became a Fellow of the American Association of Hospital Dentists.

**Dr. David Kim** (MGH Dental Group Periodontist and HSDM full time faculty) is the PI in a multicenter FDA Phase 3 Clinical Trial investigating the efficacy of chlorhexidine gluconate chips in the treatment of patients with peri-implantitis. Dr. Kim also gave several national and international talks on periodontics:

- Achieving successful outcomes in regeneration procedures, Keynote Lecturer, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Bundang, Korea
- Research in periodontics and implant dentistry, Invited Speaker, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Bundang, Korea
- Clinical research designs for sinus elevation/guided bone regeneration procedures, Osteology Research Academy, Boston
- Predictable alternative soft tissue augmentation procedures for enhancing keratinized gingiva around teeth, Annual Speaker, American Academy of Periodontology 100th Annual Meeting, San Francisco

On Oct. 4, 2014 **Dr. Maria Troulis** lectured in Dublin Ireland on *Modern Orthognathic Surgery* and *Distraction Osteogenesis* at the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland Postgraduate Lecture Series.

**Dr. David Keith** gave a 2 hour CE lecture on *Pain Management for the Dentist* to fulfill BORID requirements at the Yankee Institute Massachusetts Dental Association on Oct. 26, 2014.

On October 29, in Philadelphia, PA, **Dr. R. Bruce Donoff** received the 2014 Shils-Meskin Award. The award symbolizes Dr. Donoff’s 45 years of leadership in the dental profession as well as his efforts to showcase the importance of integrating oral health and primary care.

**Dr. David Keith** was an invited speaker at the Korean Association of Maxillofacial, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery 53rd Annual Congress, Seoul, Korea, October 29-30. He gave an Educational Lecture on *Temporomandibular Joint Surgery-risks, benefits and alternatives* and a Keynote Address on *Temporomandibular Joint Reconstruction-the MGH experience*. Dr. Keith met up with the following individuals who have been MGH Fellows:

Dr. Myung-Rae Kim who worked with Dr. Donoff 1989-90 on lingual nerve damage
Dr. Woo-Hyung “Jimmy” Kim, DistactionOsteongensis with Drs. Troulis and Kaban

Dr. Kyung-Gyun “KG”, Tissue engineering and Sialadenoscopy with Drs. Kaban and Troulis.

Dr. Sang-Hwa “Justina” Lee, Obstructive Sleep Apnea with Dr. Edward Lahey

Dr. Ross Icyda joined the staff of the MGH Division of Dentistry in December. He is a graduate of TUSDM, completed a GPR at the VA in Portland, Oregon, and had been in private practice in the Oregon area for two years.

Dr. Nicholas Dello Russo (Periodontist) was named a columnist for the online blog, http://northendwaterfront.com/2014/12/life-on-the-corner-shaw-house/. His column is "Life on the Corner," addressing what life was like growing up in a poor Italian/Jewish ghetto.

Dr. Zachary S. Peacock was elected to serve as ‘Chair Elect’ for the Boston Collaborative Group/Boston District Dental Society.
At the December 17 OMFS Grand Rounds Dr. Cory M. Resnick presented on *Complications of Pediatric Mandibular Fractures* and Dr. Zachary S. Peacock on *Genetic Analysis of Giant Cell Tumors of the Axial/Appendicular and Maxillofacial Skeleton*.

Dr. Steven J. Scrivani will serve as Chair, Orofacial Pain Special Interest Section, American Headache Society, 2014-2016. Dr. Scrivani was also elected and named a Fellow of the American Headache Society in December 2014. Out of the approximately 150 Fellows of the society, he is one of only four Dental Medicine specialists to be named as a Fellow.
Birth Announcements

Jenny-Lee Howell (MGH Dental Group) and Nicolas Tritsch welcomed their daughter, Lea, into the family on July 3, 2014.

Katie and Michael Klein welcomed their daughter Charlotte on Sept. 3, 2014. Elizabeth loves having a baby sister!

Matthew (MGH Resident, YIP 3) and Courtney Lawler welcomed their son Chase on Oct. 2, 2014.

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Watch for the next OMFS Newsletter, Volume 17, Issue 2, arriving via email in the Summer of 2015. Please contact us at oralsurgery@partners.org to update your contact information.