The Department has had a particularly wonderful start to the academic year with our new group of residents, fellows and students. Welcome to Yedeh Ying, Natalie Tung, Shawn Marsh and Maher Jandal-Rifai (PGY-1s); Rizan Nashef, Alex Katsnelson and Sal Afshar (Juniors); Basel Sharaf, Jay Ramirez and Matt Jacobsen (Chiefs); and Carl Bouchard and Kyung Gyun (KG) Hwang (Fellows). Carl comes to us from the University of Lavalle OMFS Program in Quebec and KG Hwang from University of Hanyang in Seoul, Korea, where he is an Associate Professor of OMFS. The residents and fellows have done a spectacular job with tremendous enthusiasm, good spirit and an excellent esprit de corps during a summer of record-breaking surgical volume. I also want to extend our welcome to Shelly Abramowicz, who joined us as a full-time faculty member at Children’s Hospital. She graduated from the OMFS Program at University of Florida Gainesville. As I usually do in the winter newsletter, I will recap some of the highlights of the Annual AAOMS Meeting which was held in Seattle, Washington this year.

Zach Abramson, an HSDM student, who was our AO/Synthes/MSG student Research Fellow in Pediatric OMFS last year, has a research interest in 3-dimensional imaging technology and obstructive sleep apnea. He presented an abstract entitled: Three-Dimensional CT Analysis of Airway Anatomy in Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea and a poster: Age-related Changes of the Upper Airway Assessed by Three-dimensional CT Analysis of Airway Anatomy in Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea. He presented an abstract entitled: CD34 Staining of Third Molars. His presentation was a featured speaker in the Symposium on Contemporary Management of Third Molars. His presentation was entitled: Imaging Techniques in the Evaluation of Third Molars. Tom Flynn again presented his long-running Surgical Round Table Clinic on the management of odontogenic infections. Leslie Halpern presented Detection of Child Abuse or Neglect for the professional allied staff session. Shelly Abramowicz presented a poster entitled: Twenty-Year Follow-Up Study of Disc Repositioning for Temporomandibular Joint Internal Derangement.

We had a wonderful alumni dinner in Seattle. It was held in the Library Room of the Columbia Tower Club on the 25th floor of the Columbia Tower building. The panoramic view was spectacular, and only topped by the comradery and good cheer of the MGH alumni, faculty, residents, fellows and students. As is always the case, this dinner was the highlight of the meeting. Next year the Annual AAOMS meeting will be held in Toronto and I look forward to seeing you all again.

On a local note, I want to remind you again that 2011 will be the 200th anniversary of the MGH and that we are planning an alumni event to coincide with the Annual Change Party.

I will end my remarks by again wishing you and your families a happy, healthy and successful year and by extending an open invitation for you to visit the Department when you are in Boston. I am enthusiastically looking forward to the future as this Department continues to grow and evolve. Please keep checking on the website for updates and events.

Maria Papadaki, a former MGH/AO/Synthes Fellow, presented two posters on her work in a minipig model for LeFort I maxillary distraction: 1) Analysis of the Porcine Maxillary Distraction Wound with Light and Fluorescence Microscopy and 2) Immunohistochemical and Histomorphometric Analysis of the Porcine Maxillary Distraction Wound at the Le Fort I Level. The poster on immunohistochemical and histomorphometric analysis was awarded a certificate of excellence in the Poster Session.

Faculty members were also on the program at the AAOMS meeting. Tom Dodson was a featured speaker in the Symposium on Contemporary Management of Third Molars. His presentation was entitled: Imaging Techniques in the Evaluation of Third Molars. Tom Flynn again presented his long-running Surgical Round Table Clinic on the management of odontogenic infections. Leslie Halpern presented Detection of Child Abuse or Neglect for the professional allied staff session. Shelly Abramowicz presented a poster entitled: Twenty-Year Follow-Up Study of Disc Repositioning for Temporomandibular Joint Internal Derangement.

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Batya Goldwaser, a former Student Research Fellow who will be entering the residency program in 2009, presented an abstract entitled: A Novel Device for Automated Continuous Distraction Osteogenesis: Preliminary Results in Minipigs.

Seenu Susarla, an MGH OMFS resident, presented an abstract entitled: CD34 Staining Density Predicts Giant Cell Lesion Clinical Behavior. Seenu also spent a year in the Department as an HSDM student and was enrolled in the OMFS Foundation Clinical Research Fellowship, under the supervision of Tom Dodson. Seenu’s abstract received the best abstract award for his session.

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Department Highlights

- **Congratulations** to Basel Sharaf, OMFS Chief’s Resident, and his wife Tala on their marriage on August 23, 2008!
- **BABIES! Congratulations to Jennifer Ferguson** (former Residency Program Coordinator) and her husband James on the August 26th arrival of their daughter, Lorna and to Roberto DaSilva (OMFS Technical Support) and his wife Fatin on the birth of their son Christopher on June 13th!
- **Bonnie Padwa** moved her clinical practice to Children’s Hospital while remaining on the OMFS full time faculty and we have added Edward Lahey and Shelly Abramowicz to the full-time faculty.
- The Lewis H. Millender Community of Excellence Award was presented to Bruce Donoff at the Health Professions Annual Breakfast on December 7, 2008.
- **Maria Troulis** participated in the HMS Human Body course on November 18, 2008. The topic of her session was Acquired Oro-maxillofacial Anomalies. Dr. Troulis also lectured at the MGH Department of Neuroradiology on November 24, 2008 as part of their guest lecture series. She spoke on imaging in Oral and Maxillofacial surgery.
- **Jeffry Shaefer** lectured to the South Shore Dental Society on October 11, 2008 on Atypical Facial Pain: a diagnostic and management challenge.
- **Leslie Halpern** attended the AMA National Advisory Council on Violence and Abuse as a member of their Steering Committee. Part of their strategic plan for 2010 includes examining health risk predictors that determine how violence and abuse affects the lifespan of the individual. Dr. Halpern was appointed to the American Dental Education Association Women’s Health Advisory Committee. She was also interviewed for the July/August 2008 issue of AOMS Today. The article was entitled “OMS and Dentistry—Weapons against domestic abuse”.
- **Bonnie Padwa** was elected to serve on the Joint Committee for the Status of Women at HMS/HSDM. She was also appointed to the Harvard Medical School Faculty Council which guides the Dean in the formulation of policy for the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine.
- **Meredith August** traveled to Antalya, Turkey for the American OMS Refresher Course in August 2008. Her lectures were titled “Management of Medically Compressed Patients” and “Complication of Dentoalveolar Surgery.”
- **Thomas Dodson** was elected President of the Harvard Dental Alumni Association for a two year term beginning in June 2008.
- **David Keith** lectured on “Surgical Management of Internal Derangements of the Temporomandibular Joint” at Tufts University School of Dentistry Craniofacial Pain Center on May 14, 2008. Also, on June 3, 2008 he lectured on “Orofacial Neuralgias” to the Cambridge Health Alliance Geriatric training program.

Leonard Kaban lectured on Congenital, Developmental and Acquired TMJ Abnormalities at Tufts University School of Dentistry Craniofacial Pain Center on October 29, 2008. In May 2008 Dr. Kaban traveled to Hua Shan Hospital in Shanghai, China as part of the MGH Chief’s Delegation and lectured on “Minimally Invasive Maxillofacial Surgery at MGH: Bench to Bedside”. He was also Chairman of the Festschrift Committee for Dr. John Mulliken at Children’s Hospital Boston on April 26, 2008. The Festschrift included 150 Craniofacial and Maxillofacial Surgeons and physicians interested in vascular anomalies from around the world. The Proceedings will be published as a Supplement to the Journal of Craniofacial Surgery with Dr. Kaban as co-editor. Dr. Kaban’s presentation and paper is entitled: “Facial Asymmetry and the 4th Dimension”. This paper documents the changes in facial proportions that occur with time and growth (4th dimension) in children.

Residency Program

*By Maria Troulis, DDS, Msc*

Happy Hannukah and Merry Christmas to all! I want to congratulate Jennifer Ferguson on the birth of her second child, Lorna. Understandably, Jennifer has decided to be a stay-home mom and resigned as Residency coordinator. We will miss her. However, Suzanne Byrne and Larry Voss have done a terrific job. Thank you so much Larry and Suzanne! I would like to thank our co-director, Bonnie Padwa. She has been terrific keeping the Longwood Area as a great experience for our residents, despite the changes.

Our four new interns, Natalie, Shawn, Yedeh and Maher have adjusted well to our fast-paced internship year. They are all working hard and doing an absolutely fabulous job! Keep it up! Good-luck to Shawn and Maher as they interview for an OMFS position!

The three chiefs are simply wonderful. Basel Sharaf, Jay Ramirez and Matt Jacobsen are not only well-organized, caring, and hard-working, but also wonderful teachers to the “younger ones”. Thank you for being such terrific leaders and fun to work with. It is a true pleasure working with you!

Modifications continue to be made to the residency program. These include: The interns are attending Patient-Doctor II (and doing very well.), formal chief rounds every Wednesday morning at 6:45am, headed by Dr. Kaban. All are invited to attend these rounds. This is followed by a formal Didactic Session. During our didactic sessions we have included a pathophysiology review course. I want to thank the lecturers for contributing: Drs. Melanie Hoenig, Trish Kritek, Aaron Bagghish, Stephen Chan, and Misha Pless. This year’s additional modifications (I think improvements) included a 10 hour hands-on Surgical Anatomy Course (thank you to Drs. Ed Lahey, Nalt Ferraro and Merri August for their time and commitment). Drs. Ferraro and Merri August also did the crash-course in physical diagnosis which was a terrific few weeks for our interns.

Welcome to Dr. Carl Bouchard, the 2008-2009 AO-ASIF Pediatric Clinical Research Fellow. Carl has done a fabulous job on the research and clinical side. It is no wonder he has already been recruited to the Faculty of the Laval University OMFS Department. Félicitations!

The Annual OMFS Residency Program Visiting Professorship was a great success again this year. Timothy Turvey, DMD, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery of the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry was our fourth Annual Visiting Professor. He lectured at Grand Rounds on October 1st, followed by a sit down dinner at Ma Soba with the residents that night and a resident clinic the next day. It was a terrific two days! The Grand Rounds presentations, in general, have been outstanding. The lectures are getting better and better! The Rounds are open to the community and you receive CME credits for attending. All are welcome.

I am most pleased to be working with a fabulous faculty, outstanding resident team, and terrific auxiliary staff. This team is
fulfilling our purpose to provide outstanding patient care and concurrent outstanding teaching on a daily basis. I hope everyone is having as much fun as I am!!

**MGH Dental Group**

*By Agnes Lau, DMD*

Members of the MGH Dental Group staff have been active in a number of professional activities. Dr. Arnold Weiss presented lectures on pediatric dentistry in Yerevan and Step'anakert, Armenia at a joint conference sponsored by the Federation Dentaire Internationale, Armenian Dental Association, and Armenian International Dental Association in October. He also taught dental professionals and treated patients in the Hand in Hand and Karagosian pediatric dental clinics. His clinical work was featured on TV and radio stations in Armenia. At the 2009 Yankee Dental Congress, Dr. Nicholas Dello Russo is serving on the General Arrangements Committee, and Dr. Miguel Vidal will be lecturing on “Prosthodontic Rehabilitation of the Trauma Patient.” Dr. Carolyn Coppe received the Ralph E. McDonald Award for Research from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry for her work on the ability of primary tooth pulp cells to promote oral epithelial cell differentiation. Our fellow in hospital dentistry, Dr. Jennifer Magee, was appointed to the Children’s Hospital Oncology Group Guideline Task Force on Musculoskeletal/Dental Complications.

We thank our general practice residents, Drs. Sumra Khan, Colleen Anderson, and Catherine Do, for a job well done while on rotation at the MGH the first half of the academic year. Dr. Alyson Barnes from University of the Pacific will be the next general practice resident at MGH.

Congratulations to Dr. Carolyn Coppe on her marriage to Dr. Zachary Peacock, who is in oral surgery training at UCSF, and also to Dr. Jennifer Magee on her marriage to Joshua Aigen. Dr. Miguel Vidal and Dr. Sonia Woo welcomed the birth of their first child, Mia Julan, on June 17, 2008.

**Center for Applied Clinical Investigation**

*By Thomas Dodson, DMD, MPH*

CACI continues to be active in investigation and mentoring patient-oriented OMS research. Michael Markiewicz, a former CACI fellow and current OMS resident at Oregon Health Sciences, received the award for best poster at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry in San Diego for “Does delayed placement of implants, following tooth extraction, affect survival?” Co-authors include CACI’s Sung-Kiang Chuang and Thomas Dodson.

Thomas Dodson was asked by AAOMS to testify at the APHA Annual Meeting against APHA’s proposed resolution opposing prophylactic removal of third molars. As a response to his involvement, Dr. Dodson is refining a “positive” policy statement regarding use of evidence-based criteria to manage third molars.

Dr. Dodson was elected to the Board of Directors of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation (OMSF). The excellence of our student research is a direct result of OMSF support, so we urge alumni and faculty to support us by becoming a member of the OMSF and contributing generously to the REAP program. For information, see [https://omsfoundation.org/giving/index.asp#reap](https://omsfoundation.org/giving/index.asp#reap).

For continued updates on CACI’s activities and opportunities, bookmark our site at [www.caciOMS.org](http://www.caciOMS.org).

**Skeletal Biology Research Center**

*By Leonard B. Kaban, DMD, MD*

As part of the launch of the new MGH website, the Skeletal Biology Research Center (SBRC) has a new online home. SBRC can now be reached through the MGH website or directly at [www.mgh-sbrc.org](http://www.mgh-sbrc.org). Visit us for the latest news on our cutting edge research program.

In our beautiful new laboratory space on Thier 5 and under the direction of Maria Troulis, the SBRC continues its work in the biology of Distraction Osteogenesis; Distraction Device Design; Minimally Invasive Surgery; 3-D Imaging and Navigation. As noted in the Chief’s Corner, papers were presented at the AAOMS meeting in Seattle on the sequence of events of skeletal healing in a porcine model of maxillary distraction; design of a novel, miniature, buried, automated, continuous distraction device; 3-D imaging studies of the upper airway to develop normal standards and to assess the presence and severity of obstructive sleep apnea. In addition, Cory Resnick, an OMFS resident, is working with Drs. Dodson and Kaban in collaboration with the Department of Orthopedics to investigate and compare the clinical, radiologic and molecular characteristics of giant cell lesions of the jaws and the long bones. Investigators in the SBRC received a new NIH SBIR grant to develop intraoperative navigation techniques for maxillofacial surgery. This is in collaboration with John Magill, Ph.D. from PSI, an engineering firm in North Andover.

We are in the midst of interviewing candidates for the AO/ MGH/Synthes Fellowship in Pediatric OMFS for next year. The fellowship is to prepare candidates for a career in academic OMFS with a special interest in pediatric surgery.

**Children’s Hospital**

*By Bonnie Padwa, DMD, MD*

In July 2008 a Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery was established at Children’s Hospital Boston. Bonnie Padwa was appointed Oral Surgeon-in-Chief. She works closely with Dr. John Meara, the Chief of the Department of Plastic and Oral Surgery.

Children’s Hospital recently opened a satellite facility in Waltham providing primary and secondary care to children in a community setting. Children’s Hospital Waltham is a full service hospital including radiology, 6 operating rooms and 10 in-patient beds. The Department of Plastic and Oral Surgery has a beautiful new 5000 square feet state of the art office in this facility.

The expansion of oral and maxillofacial surgery at Children’s Hospital includes the addition of a new faculty member to the team. Shelly Abramowicz joined the group in August after completing a residency at the University of Florida, Gainesville. Shelly is currently practicing in the Boston and Waltham offices and helping in the resident clinic at the MGH. Shelly has an MPH and is actively involved in several clinical research projects. Drs. Padwa and Abramowicz continue to be active members of the MGH Harvard Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Group.
The OMFS Newsletter

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UPCOMING EVENTS!  MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MGH OMFS ANNUAL CHANGE PARTY
Thursday, June 18, 2009, 6:00 p.m., Exchange Conference Center, Boston, MA

AAOMS ANNUAL MEETING
October 12-17, 2009 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Alumni Dinner
Thursday, October 15, 2009

NEXT NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2009
If you have any Alumni News or other information you’d like to share, please let us know!

If you would like any further information on these events, please contact
the Department at 617-726-8222 or oralsurgery@partners.org.
www.mghOMS.org

MOVED?  HELP US KEEP OUR DATABASE UPDATED!
Call or e-mail us with your new address and phone number.