The 2010-2011 academic year has come to a close, and in that final month of June, we held our traditional Resident Graduate Dinner and our Resident Research Forum. Chief Residents, Jeremy Lough and Kevin Lollar, completed their training this year and have joined practices in Reno, NV, and Hannibal, MO, respectively. Best wishes to both of them as they begin their careers in Otolaryngology.

The Resident Research Forum this year was a gratifying demonstration of the research efforts of our residents. The research presentations this year, taken collectively, were the most outstanding at any of our past Research Forums. This achievement clearly reflects the ongoing efforts within our department to increase the quantity and quality of our research and our scholarly activities. In an effort to facilitate the research efforts of our faculty and residents, we have added a research coordinator to our staff, who is promoting our research mission in a variety of ways including the provision of assistance with project development, IRB submission, maintenance of IRB approval, and submissions for presentation or publication. In addition, she serves as our principal liaison with the Midwest Head and Neck Consortium, a research and education group of which we are a member along with the University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska, and the University of South Dakota. The Consortium is a relatively new group, but already has two clinical studies underway- a prospective comparison of parathyroid imaging for patients undergoing parathyroidectomy and an observation study of patients with regionally metastatic squamous cell carcinoma with an occult primary.

From the clinical perspective, several of our subspecialty services show continued steady growth. Notable in this regard is our newly established neurotology service which has just recently seen a dramatic increase in referrals. The multidisciplinary voice/swallowing disorders service has also been an exciting addition to our department. The growth and development of these new services, together with continued strength and growth in allergy, pediatric otolaryngology, and head and neck oncology have been the basis of strategic growth that exceeds our projections. We look forward to continued growth and productivity in this new academic year.
Immediately after completing his residency training, Robert V. Lane, M.D., entered active duty as a staff otolaryngologist at Ft. Benning, GA, where he served for four years. In 2009, at the completion of active duty, Dr. Lane joined Topeka ENT in Topeka, KS. Dr. Lane has built a diverse general ENT practice with an interest in thyroid and parathyroid surgery, and has introduced transnasal esophagoscopy in an effort to add new technology and skills to an ever-growing group practice which happens to include two other MU alumni, Dr. Scot Hirschi and Dr. Bart Patenaude. When not busy with patients, Dr. Lane spends most of his free time devoted to family fun activities with his wife and four children.

“As for memories of MU, I have many. I don’t think I ever completely appreciated my experience as a resident until it was over. Not a day goes by that I don’t wish I could walk into Robert Zitsch’s office and ask him what he would do with a difficult case, or talk to Jerry Templer or Bill Davis about how to be a better person. I even sometimes miss helping Greg Renner move rocks from his garage to his basement in 100 degree heat. As physicians, I think sometimes we get busy with the day-to-day of our professional lives, and we forget how much we, and subsequently our patients, owe to our residency experience. I know it made me what I am today, and for that I will always be grateful.”

Cochlear Implant & BAHA programs
The University of Missouri cochlear implant and BAHA programs were re-launched in January 2011 and have gotten off to a strong start. Cochlear implants and osseointegrated auditory implants (BAHA) provide two different treatment alternatives for patients that do not receive benefit from traditional hearing aids.

Since being reinitiated in January, twenty-four patients have received either a cochlear implant or BAHA device, including two children and one adult who have received sequential bilateral cochlear implants. For all of the new implant recipients, implantation has opened up a whole new world of listening abilities.

As these programs continue to grow, the implant team looks forward to expanding the reach of the program in mid-Missouri and to furthering the excellent care we provide our patients.

Midwest Head and Neck Consortium
The Annual Midwest Head and Neck Consortium meeting was hosted by the University of Minnesota this spring. Members of the consortium include the University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, University of Nebraska, and the University of South Dakota.

The mission of the consortium is to provide enhanced ability to conduct clinical head and neck research through a cooperative effort among selected Midwest academic otolaryngology departments and to augment resident education through an annual meeting and faculty and residents of consortium members.

During the annual meeting residents and fellows from each institution give an oral scientific presentation that may be data driven research or case studies that illustrate an important management concept with awards given for the top three presentations. At the 2011 meeting, University of Missouri PGY4 Young Paik, M.D., won first place for his presentation “Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma Arising from a Mature Teratoma in a Cryptochid Testis.”
Once again, the University of Missouri partnered with the University of Kansas and the University of Nebraska to hold a joint alumni reception at the American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery meeting held in San Francisco, California.

Alumni, faculty, residents and guests enjoyed time reliving the past and sharing hopes for the future.

### Alumni Reception

*OtoHNS Chairs: Robert Zitsch, M.D. (MU), Dan Lydiatt, M.D. (NU), Doug Girod, M.D. (KU) (left to right)*

### Resident Research Day

The Annual Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery Resident Research Forum was held on Friday, June 10, 2011.

All nine residents (PGY2-5) gave outstanding presentations with Dr. Lollar taking 1st Place Best Presentation for "HPV 6 & 11 Serology Status of Patients with Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis (SyRRuP)" and Dr. Jason Goodwin coming in 2nd Place for his presentation "Prevalence of Immunoglobulin abnormalities in patient with Chronic Rhinosinusitis". The department is committed to research that mirrors clinical questions and enables better care for patients.

*Kevin W. Lollar, M.D. - 1st Place Best Presentation; Jason C. Goodwin, M.D. - 2nd Place Best Presentation (left to right)*
Drs. Kevin Lollar and Jeremy Lough said their final official good-byes to the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery in June at the annual resident graduation dinner. Faculty, residents and guests were treated to the traditional roasts of faculty and residents alike. Program Director, Dr. David Chang, and Chair, Dr. Robert Zitsch, also shared their thoughts and funny stories about the graduates.

Resident Graduation

Dr. Lough and Dr. Lollar preparing to roast the faculty and residents (left to right).

Dr. Lough enjoying the roast.

Dr. Lollar enjoying being roasted.

Dr. Lollar is now practicing general otolaryngology in Reno, Nevada.

Dr. Lough is now practicing general otolaryngology in Reno, Nevada.

Program Director Dr. Chang, Dr. Lollar, Dr. Lough, Chair Dr. Zitsch (left to right)

Awards were presented during the evening including
1st Place Best Presentation Resident Research Day - Dr. Kevin Lollar, 2nd Place Best Presentation Resident Research Day - Dr. Jason Goodwin; highest inservice score, Dr. Jon Mills, with honorable mentions to Drs. Nathan Chen, Abby Schnieders and Jason Showmaker.

According to the Head and Neck Cancer Alliance, more than 40,000 Americans are diagnosed each year with cancer of the head and neck. For the second year in a row the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Missouri in conjunction with the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center offered a free oral, head and neck cancer screening clinic in May.

Dr. Jeff Jorgensen, a head and neck surgical oncologist, along with two APNs and four residents screened almost 100 patients, 21 of whom were recommended for further evaluation. All patients were provided information regarding risk factors, symptoms and the various treatment options of head and neck cancers.

“About eighty-five percent of head and neck cancers are related to tobacco use. The first step in preventing these cancers is to stop smoking, chewing tobacco and drinking alcohol excessively,” said Dr. Jorgensen.
Since 2008, surgeons at Women’s and Children’s Hospital have been using a da Vinci® surgical system for prostate cancer, hysterectomy and gastrointestinal surgeries. The next generation da Vinci® surgical robot, the dual-console, will assist surgeons at University Hospital in performing complex minimally invasive procedures with even greater precision and control. At the same time, it will greatly enhance resident training.

The da Vinci® dual-console surgical robot has been in use since January by Drs. Jeff Jorgensen and Robert Zitsch, who are members of the fast growing da Vinci surgical team. The da Vinci®’s dual-console design allows two physicians to operate at one time, promoting collaboration and training during the surgery. Both surgeons benefit from da Vinci®’s superior 3-D visualization, enhanced dexterity and increased range of motion. Department faculty members have completed extensive training and have performed over 20 procedures the first half of this year using the dual-console system. The addition of the dual-console system is a great benefit to head and neck cancer patients by decreasing morbidity. They experience expedited recovery and a more rapid return of their swallowing.

The early success of the dual-console system indicates future growth opportunities for both University Hospital and our department.

Spring Legacy Lecture Series

This Spring, we proudly hosted J. Regan Thomas, M.D. as the featured guest in our Legacy Lecture Series. Dr. Thomas is a tireless leader in the field of otolaryngology. He currently serves as the Lederer Professor and Chair of the University of Illinois at Chicago’s (UIC) Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery.

This year proves to be a busy one for Dr. Thomas, as he also serves his term as the President of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. He has been a past President of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery as well as delegate to the American Medical Association house of Delegates.

During his stay, Dr. Thomas not only shared his insights into scar revision and local flaps for facial reconstruction, but also his life wisdom about practicing otolaryngology. “Growing up on a farm was the best experience for me,” said Thomas, as he recounted his early days in rural Missouri. While he highlighted the dedication and industry required of medical practice, he also emphasized the need to pursue other passions.

Dunk-a-Doc

The 7th annual Children’s Miracle Network Hospital fundraiser held in July saw participation from three of the department’s very own. Drs. Matt Page, Susan Nguyen and Jon Mills all took turns letting their colleagues, friends, family and other community members dunk them as part of the fundraiser which also included a bounce house, pony rides and appearances from MU athletes. Over $2,300 was raised to help children and their families in the mid-Missouri area.
Hal Pearlman, M.D., J.D., from Carbondale, Illinois, visited the department as a Legacy Lecture Series guest in August. Dr. Pearlman has had a distinguished career as a solo private practitioner who also completed his law degree while managing a full time practice.

He shared his thoughts and experiences of a lifetime in ENT with particular emphasis on managing life and patients in a one person practice. He reflected on what he had learned from classic teaching and also what experience had taught him by thinking "outside of the box."

Dr. Pearlman outlined for the residents the steps necessary to create a successful career in ENT and also a successful personal strategy for financial stability and growth. His insights into making the right choices leading to success were challenging, thoughtful and filled with personal humor. He also shared about the necessary steps to take in starting or joining private practice and create a rewarding career. The "reflections of a private doc" session enriched and challenged us all.