The past calendar year has brought significant growth to the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the University with the addition of new personnel and new services being provided to patients.

2010 was a busy year as many new faces joined our Department. Beginning in January Connie Sides, AHCNS, joined our practice to assist with inpatient and outpatient head and neck oncologic patients. In July Alex Bien, M.D., and Matt Page, M.D., joined our Faculty, and three new Residents started in our program, Tabitha Galloway (PGY1) from the University of Iowa, Jason Showmaker (PGY1) from the University of Missouri, and Jason Goodwin (PGY2) from the University of Texas – San Antonio. In August Caitlin Rawn, AuD, joined our growing audiology practice and most recently Becky Schneider joined the Department as a Research coordinator to assist the Residents and Faculty with their research projects, manuscript preparation and other scholarly endeavors.

This New Year has already been significant with some notable events having taken place in January. After many months of preparation, Dr. Bien along with our clinical audiologists have re-established a comprehensive cochlear implant team with their first cochlear implant being performed in January. This marks the resumption of our cochlear implant program which had been inactive for a period of time. Also in January, the Robotic Surgery Program at the University of Missouri was founded. The new daVinci® SI system was first used by Dr. Jeff Jorgensen to perform two transoral robotic excisions of squamous cell carcinoma. We expect to see a rapid growth of both the cochlear implant program and the transoral robotic surgery programs in the upcoming year. We are also in the process of building a Voice and Swallowing Disorders Center, this effort is being led by Dr. Matt Page. He has successfully brought together a large multidisciplinary group who have a common interest not only in the clinical aspects of these disorders, but who also will work together to solve specific problems through collaborative research.

These are exciting times as we expand our staff and services in order to build a better, stronger Department.

Robert P. Zitsch III, M.D.
William E. Davis Professor and Chair
The University of Missouri Cochlear Implant program was re-launched in January of this year. The program consists of a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary team that includes Dr. Alex Bien, audiologists Caitlin Rawn and Karen Bauer, speech-language pathologists, deaf educators, and clinical psychologists.

As part of the candidacy evaluation process, each potential implant recipient undergoes an individualized evaluation. These evaluations may include complete audiologic testing, a speech and language evaluation, a consultation with Dr. Bien, CT or MRI scan, and/or meeting with a psychologist to discuss expectations and concerns. A patient’s candidacy is then decided upon as a comprehensive team.

The program’s first cochlear implant recipient, a 9 year-old girl, received her cochlear implant at Women’s and Children’s Hospital on January 28th. Since her initial activation, which occurred two weeks after her surgery, she has continued to discover new sounds that she was not able to hear with her hearing aids. Her mother reported she was both excited and amazed at how often birds chirp! Her performance with her cochlear implant, including her speech perception abilities will continue to be monitored on a regular basis.

In November 2010 the Department hosted John Dornhoffer, M.D., as part of the Legacy Lecture Series. Dr. Dornhoffer is a graduate of the University of Kansas School and completed his residency in Otolaryngology at the University of Arkansas. He went on to complete an Otology/Neurotology fellowship in Germany and Switzerland. He is currently Professor and Vice Chairman of adult services in the Department of Otolaryngology as well as the Director of the Division of Otology/Neurotology at UAMS in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dr. Dornhoffer presented three lectures over two days, culminating with a “What I have learned…that’s not in the textbooks” magnum opus. He shared his expertise in cartilage tympanoplasty, Menière’s disease, facial nerve decompression, and tinnitus. He also touched on management of acoustic neuromas, sudden sensorineural hearing loss, and retrograde mastoidectomy techniques. His current research focuses on Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for the treatment of tinnitus, which is emerging as one of the most promising methods of treatment. Dr. Dornhoffer also helped invent several middle ear partial and total ossicular replacement prostheses that bear his name. The Dornhoffer HAPEX™ PORPS and TORPS are some of the best-selling prosthesis in the world. Incidentally, all of his royalties from the prostheses go to the Deafness Research Foundation. His visit epitomized the standard of excellence that the Legacy Lecture Series has become.

The new dual-console da Vinci® Surgical System has recently been acquired by University Hospital. Dr. Jeff Jorgensen and Dr. Bob Zitsch are members of the growing da Vinci® surgical team.

The new system allows two surgeons to operate in tandem to promote training and collaboration in this new and very exciting surgical technique.

Left: Dr. Jorgensen demonstrates on the new da Vinci® during a media conference in January.

Below: Dr. Jorgensen points out the robotic systems accuracy.
In Memoriam: Richard C. Haydon III, M.D.


Dr. Haydon earned his undergraduate degree at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, his M.D. at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia, and then completed his Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery training at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. At the time of his death he was a Professor of Surgery in the Division of Otolaryngology at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, where he practiced for nearly 20 years. Dr. Haydon was an active member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery as well as the American Rhinologic Society. He also was a very active member of the American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy, having served as its President along with other leadership roles within that organization.

As a faculty member, he was a true Renaissance man by writing, espousing wisdom and teaching medical students and residents throughout the years. There was no patient that he would not try to help, and the respect he showed them was that of family. His love of teaching earned him the Division’s Resident Teaching Award multiple times during his tenure as he was viewed as a soft spoken yet firm and gentle physician and surgeon to admire.

Outside of medicine Dr. Haydon was an avid golfer, tennis player and the proud father of two grown children. He was blessed with a wonderful musical inclination, playing the piano and keyboards like a pro.

In early 2010 the Division of Otolaryngology at the University of Kentucky began fundraising for an endowed Chair in Dr. Haydon’s honor. A celebration of the naming of the endowment took place in September 2010 just prior to his death (photo above).

A special thank you to Dr. Sanford Archer and Becky Smith of the Division of Otolaryngology at the University of Kentucky for sharing your thoughts and photos of Dr. Haydon for all us to enjoy and remember.

Welcome Class of 2016

We are pleased to have two new Residents, Bridget Hopewell and Steve Taylor, joining the Department this summer.

Bridget completed her undergraduate studies at Kansas State University followed by medical school at Yale University.

Steve comes to us after completing his undergraduate studies at Brigham Young University and medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Alumni Spotlight

James H. Boyd, M.D., completed his undergraduate degree at the Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau, MO, before heading to Columbia, where he completed his M.D. as well as Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery residency training, followed by a head and neck oncology fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh. Throughout his career Dr. Boyd has published more than 20 scientific papers, given over 40 presentations and in 1995 was named the Academic Professor of the Year in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at St. Louis University.

Currently, Dr. Boyd is in private practice at Town and Country Head and Neck Surgery in Town and Country, Missouri, where his primary practice focuses are endocrine and head and neck surgery. He also is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at St. Louis University and is the Assistant Director of the David C. Pratt Cancer Center at St. John’s Mercy Medical Center.

“I fondly remember the excellent training and friendship I experienced at the University of Missouri.”
Templer Faculty Scholar Campaign

The Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery is in the final stages to endow the Jerry W. Templer, M.D. Faculty Scholar in Otolaryngology fund. Since joining the Faculty in 1975, Dr. Templer has authored over 100 scientific publications, including 28 textbook chapters and has been wholeheartedly dedicated to treating patients while teaching medical students and residents. Over the years Dr. Templer’s influence, both professionally and personally, has had a profound impact on many learners as they continually recognize him as a role model during and after their residency training.

After over 30 years of service to the University of Missouri and the community, we have chosen to honor this devoted physician-scholar with the establishment of the Jerry W. Templer Faculty Scholar in Otolaryngology fund. Gifts not only recognize Dr. Templer, but are an investment in the future of clinical and research breakthroughs in Otolaryngology.

To make a gift, please send your contribution to:

Jerry W. Templer, M.D. Faculty Scholar in Otolaryngology fund
c/o Will Kiehl, Department Administrator
Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
One Hospital Dr MA314 Dc027.00
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