



# Alumni Newsletter

Saint Louis University Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

July 2018

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Progress on the new Saint Louis University Hospital scheduled to open 2020.



## A message from the Chairman

It's Back! After a brief hiatus, this is the return of our Alumni Newsletter. We are very excited to update you with the exciting news and events of the Department. The hospital building project is well underway and on track for September 2020 occupancy. We have an amazing new West County office with a growing Facial Plastic Division. Our education and research missions continue to thrive.

Most importantly, I want to remind you of our Alumni Event this fall. Registration is open at [alumni.slu.edu/oto2018](http://alumni.slu.edu/oto2018) It will be an amazing weekend of reminiscing, making new friends, and learning more of the future of the Department. We look forward to seeing you there!



Justin Antisdell, MD  
Chairman

Best,  
JA



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SLU.ENT

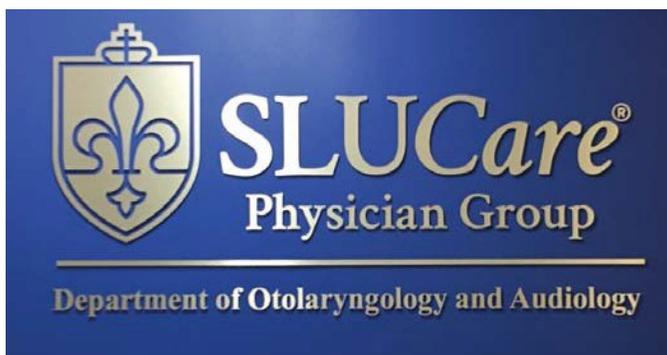
Give Now



# Outpatient Office

February 28th we opened our new West County Office at 555 N. New Ballas Road, Suite 260. We combined our two offices that were on the Mercy Campus as well as merged Dr. Walen & Dr. Simo's Facial Plastics practice.

Our staff made the move look incredibly easy. They closed the two offices, opened the new, and had the faculty seeing patients in just a matter of days.



Dr. Joshua Sappington examines a patients ears using one of the new state of the art ear microscopes.



# Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery



Frank Simo, MD      Scott Walen, MD

July 1st we welcomed Dr. Frank Simo and his staff to the SLUCare Otolaryngology Department. The Facial Plastics division is located at our new West County office at 555 N New Ballas Rd. We are offering a full range of specialties in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Dr. Simo graduated from the University of Florida College of Medicine as well as a Fellowship in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Indiana University, Indianapolis Indiana. His Residency was here at Saint Louis University in the Otolaryngology Department and he has been in private practice since 1990. Dr. Simo is joined by Dr. Scott Walen who is currently an Assistant Professor and is our Assistant Program Director for the Otolaryngology Residency program. Dr. Walen graduated from the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine and did his residency in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Calgary. Dr. Walen also completed a fellowship in Facial Plastics and Reconstructive surgery at Washington University, St. Louis, MO and a fellowship in Head & Neck Reconstructive Surgery here at Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO.



## Facial Plastics Team



**Tami Woolbright, RN  
Nurse Injector**



**Denise Whiteside, LPN  
Nurse**



**Megan Passiglia  
Clinical Esthetician**



**Pam Benne  
Medical Secretary**



**Olivia Moore  
Sr. Patient Coordinator**

## International Elective



### Samkon Gado, MD

Dr. Samkon Gado, third-year resident in the Department of Otolaryngology at Saint Louis University, received Graduate Medical Education support for a 28 day away elective rotation. His trip took place in January 2018 to serve at the Bingham University Teaching Hospital in Jos, Nigeria.

Gado, born and raised in Nigeria until the age of eight, found the opportunity to return

home and give back to a country that gave him so much both rewarding and challenging. Sharing the experience with his wife and three children made the rotation more memorable and Gado describes it as more than he expected.

Given the limited number of trained ENT physicians, Gado quickly realized he was the most qualified ENT for miles. Three days a week he treated patients presenting with a range of otolaryngology issues in a fully booked clinic. The other two days, he had hoped were going to be filled with surgical procedures where he could fully utilize his skills and knowledge to serve the people of Jos. Gado's surgical time was not as busy as anticipated, primarily due to the inability of patients to pay but also because some treatments were beyond his level of training; however, he was able to perform procedures ranging

from tonsillectomies to wound salvage.



His reflection on the away rotation in Nigeria is befitting of a man whose daily actions fully embody the SLU mission to pursue "truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity," Dr. Samkon Gado said it was a life-changing and valuable experience to serve the people of Nigeria, a country to which he desires to return and live a mission-driven life through a career in medicine .



# 29th Annual William B. Harkins, MD Graduation



Please join us in congratulating, Sean Massa, MD and Daniel Wehrmann, MD, who graduated from our Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Residency. It was a splendid evening, certainly the hottest in department history!

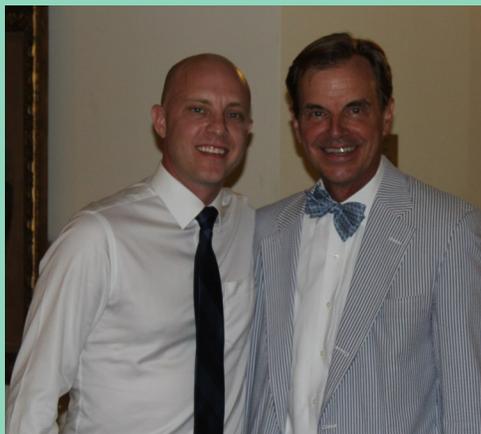
Dr. Sean Massa joined us in 2013 with his Doctorate of Medicine from Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA and a Bachelors of Science in Biomedical Engineering, Minor in Global Health from Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. After graduating Dr. Massa started his Head and Neck fellowship at Washington University, St. Louis, MO.



Dr. Daniel Wehrmann joined us in 2013 after his internship in General Surgery at Saint Louis School of Medicine. Wehrmann received his Doctor of Medicine from Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, NE and his Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minor in Psychology from Truman State University, Kirksville, MO. Dr. Wehrmann also did an Away Rotation at Hospital Ruber International in Madrid, Spain, April of 2016. After graduation Dr. Wehrmann started his Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellowship at The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

Each year the residents vote on three separate awards, Outstanding Clinical Faculty Member, Outstanding Academic Faculty Member, and Resident MVP. Our guest speaker Kathleen Sie, MD, chooses the Resident Research Award recipient based on research presented earlier in the day at our Mark A. Varvares, MD Endowed Lecture.

- Dr. Gregory Ward, Outstanding Academic Faculty Member
- Dr. Mark Packer, Outstanding Clinical Faculty Member
- Dr. Matthew Gropler, Resident Research Award
- Samantha Anderson, Resident MVP Award



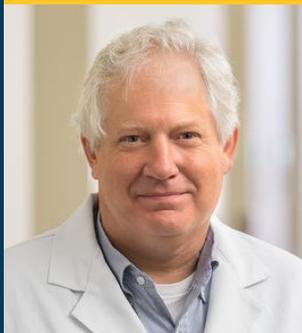
This year a special First Chair Award was presented. It was awarded to Dr. John Eisenbeis for his 25 years of dedication to Saint Louis University and the SLU Mission.



Kathleen C.Y. Sie, MD, FACS  
Guest Speaker at our  
29<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Mark A. Varvares, MD  
Endowed Lecture



## Faculty News



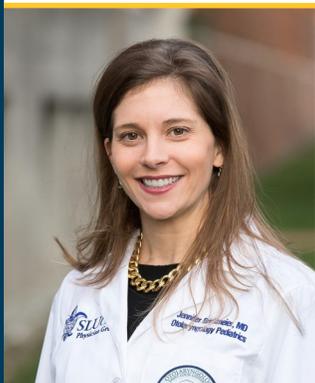
Dr. Thomas Sanford was promoted to Professor July 1st. He is board certified in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. He attended medical school at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. He completed his residency in Otolaryngology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas. Dr. Sanford joined our faculty in July 2005. Congratulations Tom and thank you for your dedication to the Department!

Dr. Dennis Fuller has been appointed to serve on the Standard and Ethics Board of American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Dr. Fuller's 4-year term will begin January 1, 2019. The Board is responsible for maintaining and administering ASHA's code of Ethics. Dr. Fuller joined our faculty in 1997.



Nosa Osazuwa-Peters, PhD successfully defended his dissertation entitled: Epidemiology of Cancer-Associated Suicide among Head and Neck Cancer Survivors in the United States. Nosa officially received his Doctorate in Philosophy in Public Health Studies during graduation in May. He has been promoted to Assistant Professor. Nosa oversees our Epidemiology core. Nosa has also been named co-guest editor for a special focus issue on HPV-associated cancers in the Journal of Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics.

Dr. Joseph Brunworth's application into the American College of Surgeons has been approved. He will remain an "Initiate" until Fellowship is formally conferred at the Convocation Ceremony in Boston this October. Dr. Brunworth joined our faculty in October 2014. Congratulations Joe on your achievement!



Dr. Jennifer Brinkmeier and Dr. John Chi held the 3rd Annual Midwest Otolaryngology Simulation Training (MOST) course on July 15. The MOST course is a boot camp for junior residents, providing the opportunity for hands-on experience with procedures and scenario simulations in speaking with families, etc. Participants included 14 residents and 11 faculty from SLU, WashU, University of Tennessee, and UMSL.



# News



Dr. Joshua Sappington joined our faculty in October. His specialty is Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery with a Subspecialty in Otolaryngology/Neurotology, Skull Base Surgery, Cochlear Implants, Chronic Ear Surgery, Skull Base Tumors. Sappington attended Medical school at Saint Louis University. He completed his Residency at Loyola University and a Fellowship in Neurotology, Otolaryngology, and Lateral Skull Base at Louisiana State University, New Orleans and Baton Rouge, LA. Dr. Sappington is Board certified in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery.

## New Residents

**Scott Hong, MD**

**Rush Medical College of  
Rush University Medical  
Center**



**Joseph Sinnwell, MD**

**Wake Forest School of  
Medicine of Wake Forest  
Baptist Medical Center**



### Save the Date

Saint Louis University  
Department of Otolaryngology  
Head and Neck Surgery  
Alumni Society Weekend

September 14—16, 2018  
Saint Louis, Missouri

Hotel Accommodations:  
Hotel Ignacio — 314-977-4413  
Rate: \$155.00 per night  
Reserve your room prior to  
August 14, 2018 for group rate

*weekend events details coming soon*

For more information or questions  
please contact:  
Tina Vandever  
ent@health.slu.edu or 314-268-7408



Pere Marquette



Three Sixty at Ballpark Village

# Publications

- Assessing university students' sexual risk behaviors as predictors of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine uptake behavior. Rohde RL, Adjei Boakye E, Christopher KM, Geneus CJ, **Walker RJ**, Varvares MA, **Osazuwa-Peters** Vaccine. 2018 Jun 14;36(25):3629-3634
- Correlates of health information seeking between adults diagnosed with and without cancer. Adjei Boakye E, Mohammed KA, Geneus CJ, Tobo BB, Wirth LS, Yang L, **Osazuwa-Peters N**. PLoS One. 2018 May 10;13(5):e0196446
- Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Adolescents and Young Adults: Survivorship Patterns and Disparities. Challapalli SD, **Simpson MC**, Adjei Boakye E, Pannu JS, Costa DJ, **Osazuwa-Peters N**. J Adolesc Young Adult Oncol. 2018 May 10
- Does orthognathic surgery improve myofacial pain in individuals with skeletal class III? One-year follow-up. Sebastiani AM, de Lucas Corso PFC, Bonotto D, de Souza JF, **Costa DJ**, Scariot R, Rebellato NLB. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol. 2018 Apr 16
- Correlates of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination initiation and completion among 18-26 year olds in the United States. Adjei Boakye E, Lew D, Muthukrishnan M, Tobo BB, Rohde RL, Varvares MA, **Osazuwa-Peters, N**. Hum Vaccin Immunother. 2018 Apr 30:1-39
- Total caloric eye speed in patients with vestibular migraine. Thompson-Harvey A, **Mikulec AA**. Am J Otolaryngol. 2018 Mar - Apr;39(2):180-183
- Butterfly cartilage tympanoplasty outcomes: A single-institution experience and literature review. Jumaily M, **Franco J**, Gallogly JA, **Hentzelman JL**, **Costa DJ**, **Wild APK**, **Mikulec AA**. J Otolaryngol. 2018 Mar
- Oncologic and functional outcomes of pretreatment tracheotomy in advanced laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma: A multi-institutional analysis. Byrd SA, Xu MJ, **Cass LM**, **Wehrmann DJ**, Naunheim M, Christopher K, Dombrowski JJ, **Walker RJ**, Wirth L, Clark J, Busse P, Chan A, Deschler DG, Emerick K, Lin DT, Varvares MA. Oral Oncol. 2018 Mar;78:171-176
- Primary Cancer vs Competing Causes of Death in Survivors of Head and Neck Cancer. **Simpson MC**, **Massa ST**, Adjei Boakye E, **Antisdel JL**, Stamatakis KA, Varvares MA, **Osazuwa-Peters N**. JAMA Oncol. 2018 Feb 1;4(2):257- 259.
- Survival of human papillomavirus-associated cancers: Filling in the gaps. **Osazuwa-Peters N**, **Massa ST**, **Simpson MC**, Adjei Boakye E, Varvares MA. Cancer. 2018 Jan 1;124(1):18-20.
- Association Between Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Survival, Smoking at Diagnosis, and Marital Status. **Osazuwa-Peters N**, Adjei Boakye E, Chen BY, Tobo BB, Varvares MA. JAMA OTO Head Neck Surg. 2017 Nov.
- 40-year incidence trends for oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma in the United States. **Osazuwa-Peters N**, **Simpson MC**, **Massa ST**, Adjei Boakye E, **Antisdel JL**, Varvares MA. Oral Oncol. 2017 Nov;74:90-97.

# Publications

- External Auditory Canal Foreign Body Extraction Outcomes. Karimnejad K, Nelson EJ, Rohde RL, **Costa DJ**. *Ann Otol Rhinol Laryngol*. 2017 Nov;126(11):755-761
- Approaching a decade since HPV vaccine licensure: Racial and gender disparities in knowledge and awareness of HPV and HPV vaccine. Adjei Boakye E, Tobo BB, Rojek RP, Mohammed KA, Geneus CJ, **Osazuwa-Peters N**. *Hum Vaccin Immunother*. 2017 Nov 2;13(11):2713-2722
- Decreased cancer-independent life expectancy in the head and neck cancer population. **Massa ST, Cass LM, Osazuwa-Peters N**, Christopher KM, **Walker RJ**, Varvares MA. *Head Neck*. 2017 Sep;39(9):1845-1853
- Assessment of weight gain following adenotonsillectomy in children with Down syndrome. D'Esposito CF, **Farhood Z**, Baker AB, Nguyen SA, LaRosa AC, Lal C, White DR. *Int J Pediatr OTO* 2017 Sep;100:103-106
- Tonsillectomy in Children with Down Syndrome: A National Cohort of Inpatients. Baker AB, **Farhood Z**, Brandstetter KA, Teufel RJ 2nd, LaRosa A, White DR. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg*. 2017 Sep
- Survival after refusal of surgical treatment for locally advanced laryngeal cancer. **Massa ST, Osazuwa-Peters N, Franco J, Ward GW, Walker RJ**. *Oral Oncol*. 2017 Aug;71:34-40
- Coblation versus other surgical techniques for tonsillectomy. Pynnonen M, **Brinkmeier JV**, Thorne MC, Chong LY, Burton MJ. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2017 Aug 22;8:CD004619
- Intergenerational preferences for radio loudness during automobile driving. Hanser FHB, Adjei Boakye E, **Mikulec AA**. *Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol*. 2017 Jul;98:64-67
- Dysphagia: A New Geriatric Syndrome. **Payne MA**, Morley JE. *J Am Med Dir Assoc*. 2017 Jul 1;18(7):555-557. doi: 10.1016/j.jamda.2017.03.017