

# OTOSCOPE Quarterly

A publication for friends and colleagues of Jefferson's Department of Otolaryngology– Head & Neck Surgery

## Welcome to the Department, Arielle Thal, MD and Meghan Crippen, MD

We are pleased to announce that **Arielle Thal, MD** and **Meghan Crippen, MD** have joined Jefferson Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery.



**Arielle Thal, MD** joins the Department's Head and Neck Oncology Division as Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. Dr. Thal earned her medical degree at George Washington University's School of Medicine in Washington, DC and completed her otolaryngology

residency at Montefiore Medical Center in Bronx, NY. She completed a fellowship in Advanced Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Microvascular Reconstruction here at Jefferson in June, 2023.

In her free time, Dr. Thal likes to spend time with friends and family, be outside, drink coffee and run. She was able to spend time this summer visiting family and friends in California and Portland as well as taking a trip to Thailand. Dr. Thal will see patients in Center City and at our Torresdale Office.



We are pleased to welcome back **Meghan Crippen, MD**, who graduated from our residency program in June 2023. Dr. Crippen is returning to our department as an Instructor of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery. She earned her medical degree from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School in Newark, NJ.

Originally from North Jersey, Dr. Crippen now calls Center City home, where she resides with her husband. When she is not working, she enjoys woodworking, trying different craft beers, and spending quality time with her family. On weekends, you will likely find her immersed in a home renovation project or cheering for her favorite football team at Wrap Shack.

Dr. Crippen will be available to see patients at both our Center City location and our Cherry Hill Office.

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# Achievements and Congratulations

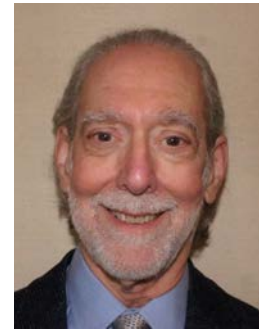
## William M. Keane, MD, James Reilly, MD and David Reiter, MD, MBA Awarded Professor Emeritus Status



**William M. Keane, MD**, former Herbert Kean, MD Professor and Chair, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, has been a role model and mentor for many of the current faculty at Jefferson and for our alumni across the country. He built and shaped our department, and any future success will be due to the foundation he constructed. A nationally and internationally recognized head and neck surgeon, Dr. Keane’s passionate dedication to patient welfare and his early adoption of technological advances in head and neck cancer therapy highlight his dynamic leadership of one of the nation’s finest departments of otolaryngology. Congratulations, Dr. Keane!



**James Reilly, MD**, former Chair for the Department of Surgery at Nemours-duPont Hospital for Children, who recently retired from clinical practice was also recently awarded the status of Emeritus Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. Dr. Reilly’s career in pediatric otolaryngology and commitment to education is truly inspiring. Not only did Dr. Reilly build a program at Nemours and its lasting partnership with Jefferson, but he also helped foster the entire field of pediatric otolaryngology. His legacy will be carried on for years to come. Congratulations, Dr. Reilly!

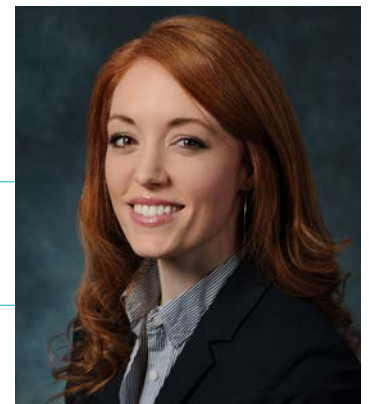


**David Reiter, MD, MBA** was instrumental in establishing the Jefferson Center for Facial Plastic Surgery and introducing microvascular free flap surgery. Dr. Reiter was invited to the TJUH leadership team in 2000 and later became Associate Chief Medical Officer of Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals. He was also invited to join the faculty of the College of Population Health and taught the core Healthcare Quality & Safety course. In 2015, he became the first Director of the Jefferson Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship. Congratulations, Dr. Reiter.

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Congratulations to **Elizabeth Cottrill, MD** who has been named Vice Chair of the national interdisciplinary committee creating the Focused Practice Designation for Adult Complex Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery.

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Congratulations to **Tina Onorato, BSN, RN, CNOR**, one of our Jefferson Surgical Center nurses, who received the Center City DAISY Award for July 2023. This award is in recognition of Tina’s extraordinary commitment to helping others. Tina’s quick thinking and expert CPR skills proved instrumental in saving a life during a medical emergency. Beyond this remarkable act, Tina’s compassion continued to shine as she regularly checked on the individual’s wellbeing, providing comfort and reassurance. We are grateful for Tina and her unwavering dedication to improving lives.

Congratulations to **Gregory Epps, MD** who has assumed the role of Division Chief of Otolaryngology at Jefferson Northeast office effective August 1, 2023.



**Elizabeth Cottrill, MD** performed the first case with our new radiofrequency ablation (RFA) equipment on August 9, 2023. This is an amazing step toward new and innovative ways to treat thyroid disease and we are excited to expand the use of this innovative treatment.

Congratulations to **Daniel Campbell, MD (PGY2)** for being named the September 2023 Jefferson Clinical Educator of the Month. The award is based on student evaluations of their faculty and house staff after each rotation at Sidney Kimmel Medical College. The highest scores in a group on the SKMC Clinical Educators Honor Roll are recognized by their excellence. From the list of honor roll recipients, a selected individual, one faculty, and one house staff, are highlighted and recognized for their exceptional teaching and guidance to the SKMC medical students. Dan's student evaluations have been outstanding and demonstrate the positive impact he has on students. We are proud of Dr. Campbell and the positive impact he has had on medical students.



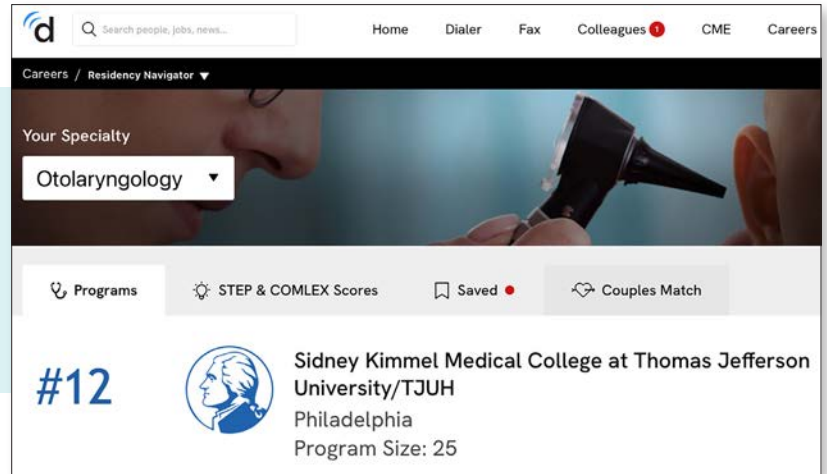
**Pablo Llerena**, one of our 2023-24 research fellows, is the recipient of the **2023-24 Underrepresented Minority in Medicine Scholarship**. This scholarship is awarded annually to a research fellow who identifies as an underrepresented minority in medicine and has shown impressive academic achievement and dedication to promoting Underrepresented Groups in Medicine.





Congratulations to **Jacob Hunter, MD** who recently performed a first-of-its-kind robot-assisted electrode insertion in a cochlear implantation procedure that ensures added control and safety. The surgery took place in Cherry Hill, NJ and we are excited to see the growth of the cochlear implant program in New Jersey.

Jefferson Otolaryngology's residency program has risen to #12 out of 128 for reputation in Doximity's Otolaryngology Residency Navigator. It is a testament to our residency program directors and coordinator, faculty, and residents who help make us better each and every day. We look forward to a successful match this year!



**BEST HOSPITALS**  
US NEWS & WORLD REPORT

**Jefferson Health-Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals Ear, Nose & Throat**

Philadelphia, PA

**#27 in Ear, Nose & Throat**

We are proud that Jefferson Health–Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals was ranked **#27 in Ear, Nose, and Throat** the US News & World Report Best Hospitals 2023-2024 Rankings! This is a major jump from our previous ranking of **#42** and it is a reflection on the dedication and care of the providers and our entire team.



Congratulations to **Jennifer Carey, CRNP** for being recognized at Jefferson's Advance Practice Provider (APP) Excellence Awards Ceremony on September 28, 2023. Jennifer is the recipient of the 2023 APP Excellence in Clinical Practice Award - Central Region. This award recognizes Jennifer for implementing new or enhanced clinical care, involved in program development which optimizes patient outcomes or experience and consistently gives exemplary evidenced based and compassionate patient care.

*"Jenn has been a fixture in our department for over 20 years and has single handedly helped to develop our clinical pathways and care guides for our patients in the rhinology division. Jenn works tirelessly to create materials to help teach our patients about their disease, how to understand their surgery and post-operative care and also to foster appropriate care and support for our patients with cancer. She has proven to be a leader in every possible way and is a role model for taking*

*initiative and going above and beyond for patient care. She is often working on her days off to support the physicians as well as patients! I have known Jenn for over 12 years and she has been invaluable to my education as well. She has taught so many residents, medical students, nurses and physicians over the years. She is absolutely invaluable to our practice and I couldn't think of any person more deserving for this award."*

# Jefferson Oto in the News



**Gurston Nyquist, MD** spoke with *PhillyVoice* in light of the FDA advisory panel's recent vote on phenylephrine, which is commonly used in many over the counter cold and allergy medications. He discussed what phenylephrine is, why its use as a decongestant has come into question and provided insight on more effective alternatives. To read the article, click [here](#) or go to <https://tinyurl.com/NyquistFDAAdvisory>

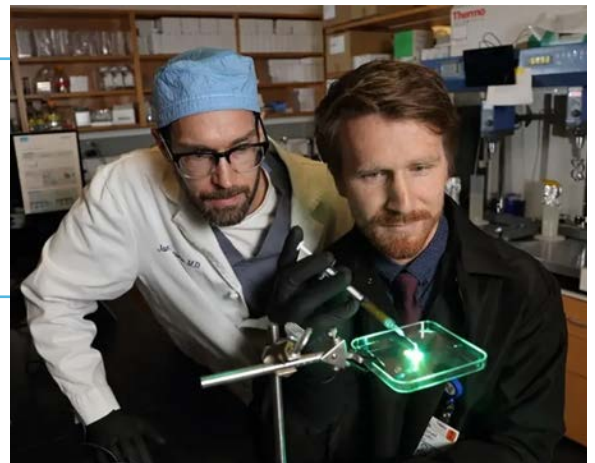
**Maurits Boon, MD** was the featured advertisement sponsoring ABC World News Tonight during the week of July 17, 2023. Please see his outstanding job promoting our Department and our Sleep Surgery program! Click [here](#), on the image, or to watch the video go to <https://tinyurl.com/BoonWorldNews>.



**Dennis Fitzgerald, MD** recently had his article *Swimmer's Ear Vs. Middle Ear Infections* republished in Jefferson Health's *Living Well* magazine. To read the article, click [here](#) or go to <https://tinyurl.com/FitzgeraldEarInfections>

## Alumni News

**James Daniero, MD (R '13)** (on left) and his team at the University of Virginia were awarded two NIH Grants for \$3.1 million to study the ability for advanced biomaterials to restore voice and speech function. This research aims to build the foundation for vocal cord tissue reconstruction, which would be an incredible innovative milestone in medicine. To learn more, click [here](#) or visit <https://tinyurl.com/DanieroNIHGrants>.



Congratulations to **Jared Goldfarb, MD (R '21)** and his wife Christine on the birth of their son Matthew Chadwick Goldfarb, on August 24, 2023. Matthew is also the grandson of Lisa and **David Goldfarb, MD (R '92)**.



Congratulations to these seven members of the Oto Family who got married recently. Best wishes to **Jack Palmer (PGY2)**, **Kelly Bridgham (PGY2)**, **Kate Landers (R'22)**, **Reilly Scott (PGY1)**, **Ann Kane (HNF'20)**, **Jennifer Holzworth (OR Nurse)**, **Chase Khan (PGY4)** and their spouses.



## Spotlight On Research



Congratulations to **Adam Luginbuhl, MD** and **Christine Eischen, PhD** on their recently awarded R01 grant award. Dr. Christine Eischen is a close collaborator from the Department of Cancer Biology and is the PI of this grant with Dr. Luginbuhl as Co-I. Their grant titled "Investigating a new vulnerability in oral squamous cell carcinoma" will investigate the effects of a novel targeted degrader on oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) and new approaches to increase OSCC immunogenicity. Preliminary data has demonstrated a remarkable signal in cancer samples so far. This is a promising start and new avenue for continued collaborations.

## Upcoming Events

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 17, 2023**

### Thyroid Cancer and Parathyroid Disease Update 2023

To register, click the image or visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/2023ThyroidUpdate>

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center

**2023 Thyroid Cancer Symposium:**  
Updates in Diagnosis and Treatment

**FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS**  
 Louise Davies, MD, MS Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine, Hanover, New Hampshire    Megan R. Haymart, MD University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

**JEFFERSON COURSE DIRECTORS**  
 Elizabeth E. Cottrill, MD    Jeffrey L. Miller, MD, FACP, FACE

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

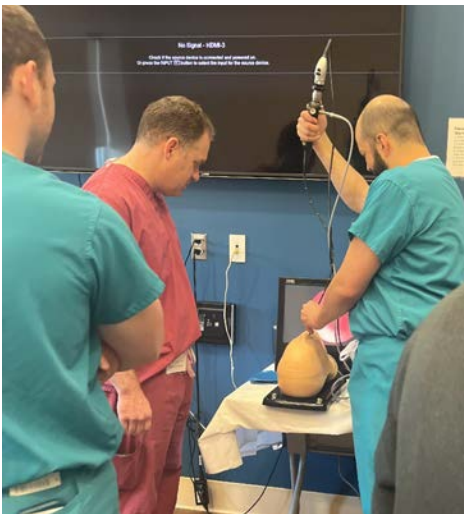
Thomas Jefferson University

Friday, November 17, 2023  
Virtual Meeting



# Otolaryngology Events: Looking Back

Jefferson Otolaryngology was well-represented at the **American Head & Neck Society's 11th International Conference** on Head and Neck Cancer which was held in Montreal, Canada from July 10-12, 2023. Our faculty and trainees had six instruction courses, 15 oral presentations, and nine poster presentations during the meeting. Additionally, the Head & Neck team hosted a family dinner where we were able to reconnect with former fellows and residents. For a full list of our department presentations at AHSN 2023, visit <https://tinyurl.com/OtoAHNS2023>.



Our PGY-2s participated in ENT Bootcamp, hosted by Georgetown University Otolaryngology, in Baltimore, MD on Saturday, July 15, 2023. **Richard Goldman, MD** served as faculty for the course.



**Jacob Hunter, MD** served as keynote speaker at the University Hospitals Ear, Nose, & Throat Institute's 2023 Endoscopic Middle Ear Course which was held on July 14-15, 2023 in Cleveland, OH. Dr. Hunter presented his topic, "Critiquing My Own Mistakes" and served on the "Interesting Cases" panel. **Jena Patel, MD (PGY4)** was also able to attend the course.

**Joseph Curry, MD** served as keynote speaker for the Michigan Otolaryngological Society Annual Summer Meeting on July 16, 2023 where he gave the John L. Kemink Memorial Lectureship on "Advancement in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma," in addition to a talk on "Managing the Difficult Patient."





## New Torresdale Office!

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on July 18, 2023 to celebrate the opening of our brand new office at Jefferson Torresdale Hospital. This year continues to be one of new beginnings as we open beautiful new spaces and continue to expand our commitment to the highest quality patient care across our region! Though we only moved a few doors down from our prior office in the building, our new space offers increased exam rooms and an expanded balance and hearing center! Ceremoniously cutting the ribbon is **Elizabeth Cottrill, MD**, pictured with members of the Torresdale office staff as well as team members from the administration and management teams. Pictured with **David Cognetti, MD** are the otolaryngologists seeing patients at the Torresdale office - **Paul Johnson, MD, Elizabeth Cottrill, MD, Gregory Epps, MD, and Aykut Unsal, DO**.



A virtual open house was held on August 30, 2023. The turnout of students from medical schools across the country was great! They were able to meet the faculty and current residents to learn more about our great program!



Our residents participated in the annual Emergency Bootcamp on August 23, 2023. The course was organized by **Aarti Agarwal, MD (PGY5)** and **Dylan Berton, MD (PGY4)** under the guidance of **Richard Goldman, MD** and provided opportunities for junior residents and medical students to learn how to manage different airway scenarios and common call situations.





On September 6, 2023, the annual laryngology injection workshop led by **Kathleen Tibbets, MD** and **Joseph Spiegel, MD** was held. The residents were able to practice laryngeal injection, medialization, adduction, and carving their own thyroplasty implants. **Dylan Bertoni, MD (PGY4)** assisted in organizing the workshop.



Residents from Jefferson, Cooper, Temple and Penn gathered for the annual head and neck ultrasound course on September 8, 2023. Our PGY3s were able to attend the course in which **Elizabeth Cottrill, MD** and **Christopher Fundakowski, MD** served as course faculty.

## Inaugural Jefferson Otolaryngology Faculty & Alumni Golf Outing



**Front Row:** Drs. Gregory Epps, Ryan Heffelfinger, Bryan Ambro, Aarti Agarwal, Jim Han, Sana Siddiqui, Alex Duffy, and Ayan Kumar.  
**Back Row:** Drs. Emily Funk, David Rosen, Daniel Charous, Adam McCann, Scott Goldstein, Marc Rosen, Gurston Nyquist, William Keane, Gregory Smith, David Cognetti, Joseph Curry, Joseph Spiegel, William Parkes, Megan Crippen, Colin Huntley, Kyle Fisher, Richard Schmidt, Peter Benedict and Dennis Fitzgerald. **Not Pictured:** Drs. Adam Luginbuhl, Douglas Leventhal and David Rayfield

The inaugural **Jefferson Otolaryngology Faculty & Alumni Golf Outing** was held on September 11, 2023 at the Union League Liberty Hill Golf Club in Lafayette Hill, PA. The faculty was joined by chief residents, clinical fellows and several alumni. We were honored to have **William Keane, MD** join us. We hope to build off this year's success to have an even larger gathering next year!



## William Keane, MD Lecture in Head & Neck Surgery



The annual **William Keane, MD Lecture in Head & Neck Surgery** was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 and featured guest lecturer **Andrew G. Sikora, MD, PhD**, Professor and Director of Research, Department of Head & Neck Surgery and Professor of Immunology at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Dr. Sikora's talk, "Improving Therapeutic Outcomes by Targeting the Immunosuppressive Microenvironment of Oral Cancer," was interesting and informative for all in attendance. It was our pleasure to also have **William Keane, MD** in attendance!



**Mindy Rabinowitz, MD** served as a participant on the North American Skull Base Society's Sinonasal Cancer Collaborative Sinonasal Malignancy Tumor Board on September 20, 2023.

## Award Winners

**Adam Luginbuhl, MD** and **Maurits Boon, MD** were presented with their well-deserved awards at the AAO-HNS meeting in Nashville. Dr. Boon was awarded the 2023 Young Physicians Section Model Mentor Award and Dr. Luginbuhl was awarded the 2023 Young Physicians Section Impact Award. These awards highlight the incredible work that both have done to help education the next generation of otolaryngologists.





# Jefferson Otolaryngology Well Represented at Fall Meetings

Jefferson Otolaryngology had an outstanding showing in Nashville for the annual meetings of the **American Rhinologic Society**, the **International Surgical Sleep Society**, the **Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurses**, and the **American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery**. We celebrated the many accomplishments of the department and caught up with alumni from across the country. For a full list of our 65 Fall meeting presentations, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/OtoFallMeetings2023>.





# Support his passion for educating future otolaryngologists.

Nemours Children's Health has established the Dr. James S. Reilly Pediatric Otolaryngology Education Fund to recognize his innumerable contributions and passion for education in the field.

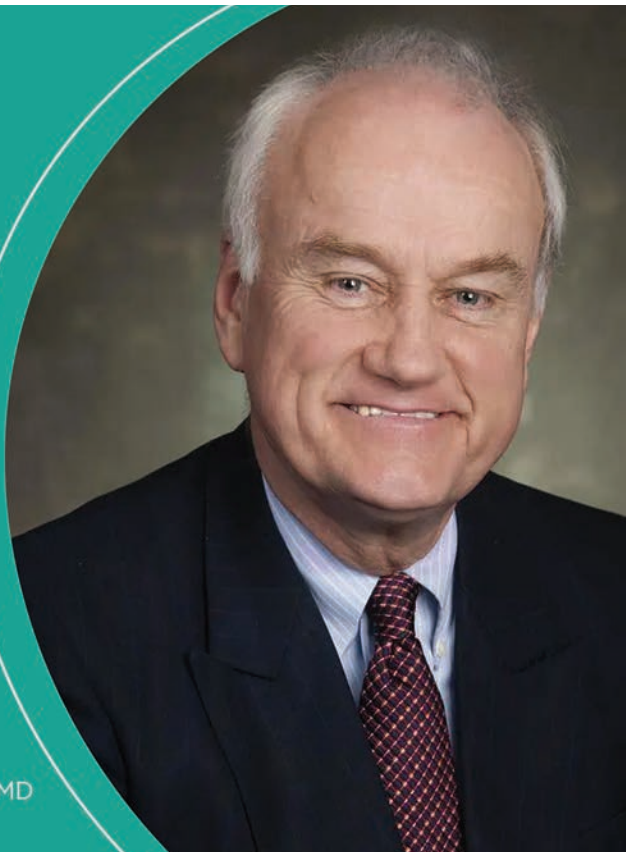
Your contributions will benefit medical students, nurses, audiologists, trainees and junior faculty to offset costs of educational opportunities such as conferences and publications.



Scan to support or visit  
[nemours.org/drreillyfund](https://nemours.org/drreillyfund)



Dr. James S. Reilly MD



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Summer 2023

<https://tinyurl.com/OtoscopeSum23>



Spring 2023

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Winter 2023

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