



Neurosurgery Newsletter

2019



Cranial Approaches & Microvascular / Bypass Skills Lab

Under the direction of our newest attending, Dr. Reid Gooch, the neurosurgery residents have had the opportunity to start practicing microsurgical skill sets outside of the operating room. Recently, Dr. Evans received some cadaver heads which the residents are using to practice learning different cranial and skull base approaches. The second component of the lab involves chicken wings - yes, you read that correctly! The brachial artery of a chicken wing is approximately 1 mm - the same caliber as a cortical vessel. This makes it a practical yet effective educational tool for the residents. The time spent in the lab has been a great success, and with generous support from Alumni, friends and Family of the Department, we hope to make some much needed renovations to our lab space to continue using it in the years to come.

Journal Clubs

Another quarterly academic activity the residents participate in is journal club. This year there will be 4 journal clubs – one for each of the divisions: Spine, Functiona/ Epilepsy, Cerebrovascular and Tumor/Skull Base. The topics of the journal clubs are chosen by the residents, and a few faculty members are usually present to moderate discussion on the articles. In August, Dr. Heller generously hosted the residents on his roof deck for a journal club on the topic of Spine Deformity and surgical decision making. In October, Dr. Wu and the residents discussed relevant trials in Spinal Cord Stimulation over dinner at local restaurant, Smokin' Betty's.

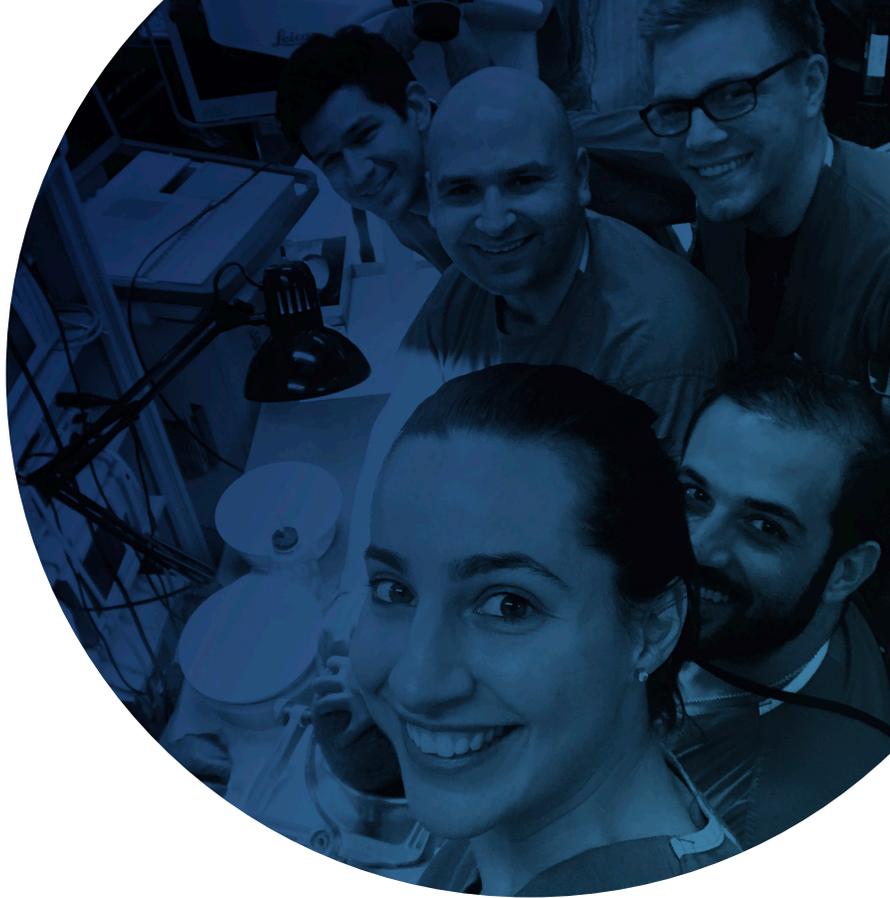


Congress of Neurological Surgeons

This year's CNS Meeting was certainly one to be remembered. Dr. Ashwini Sharan, one of the brightest stars at Jefferson, served as CNS President this past year, and Dr. James Harrop served as Vice President. Additionally, Dr. Robert Rosenwasser, the Jewell L. Osterholm, MD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery, was the honored guest at the conference.

Because of Houston's connection to NASA, the theme of the conference was Mission: Neurosurgery, and celebrated the accomplishments of the teams who work diligently to achieve meaningful breakthroughs in neurosurgery. Jefferson's team shined as the real star-exploring pioneers in the room. Dr. Rosenwasser was the honored guest. He presented an honored guest lecture titled "The Neurosurgeon as a Stroke Specialist" and, "The Evolution of Neurovascular Surgery: Procedural or Disease Oriented?". As the presentations began, our faculty stood out amongst the rest—people were literally on the edge of their seats to hear about cutting-edge science and technological advances being developed at Jefferson.

After a day of presentations, the Jefferson glow continued at the President's Reception and Honored Guest Dinner, which had a fun "Southwest Formal" dress code. A great time was had by all!



Pan-Philadelphia Neurosurgery Conference

The annual Pan-Philadelphia Neurosurgery Conference was a great success this year. The event was hosted at the Union League, and the Keynote Speaker was Dr. Kim Burchiel from OHSU. As usual, Jefferson's Department of Neurosurgery was well represented across all panels. Residents Fadi Al Saeigh (PGY4) and Thana Theofanis (PGY5) both gave oral presentations in the resident research symposium. Thana's work on sphenopalatine ganglion stimulation and modulation of the blood brain barrier won the award for best basic science presentation.

Check us out on social media!

The neurosurgery residents have started social media pages to keep followers in the loop with happenings within the department. These pages are solely authored by the residents with relevant updates and exciting things happening within the department. Please give them a follow on:

 Instagram @jeffersonneurosurgery |  Twitter @TJUHNeurosurg