Barry Steinberg, DDS, MD, FACS, safely returned from a tour in Afghanistan in April 2010 after serving 3 months as an advisor to the Afghan National Security forces. As a Lieutenant colonel in the US Army, Barry had multiple responsibilities while abroad both within the Civil Affairs Division of the Army and as a surgeon. We are glad that he is back in Jacksonville where he can resume his daily activities as a productive member of our Division.

In the literature...


Departing Chief Residents...

Our two graduating residents, Drs. Todd Reuter and Kenneth Wieder, will successfully complete their training in OMS in June 2010.

Dr. Todd Reuter will join a practice in Sarasota, Florida while Dr. Kenneth Wieder, will be entering a practice on the east side of the state around Boca Raton. We wish both of them great success and will certainly miss their leadership while with us.

To celebrate their achievements, Dr Sat Parmar, an OMS from the United Kingdom will be our keynote speaker. Dr. Parmar will be presenting several lectures on maxillofacial reconstruction during the week of graduation.

A note from our Division Chief...

I would like to welcome you to the latest edition of our Division’s newsletter. I hope you have survived our “long winter” in Jacksonville and are looking forward to hearing the phrase “heat index” once again. I would also like to thank all of you who continue to support our Division and its mission through generous financial contributions, voluntary services, and mentorship.

I am pleased to say that we are having another successful year in 2009-2010. While many have been severely affected by the economic hardship facing our nation, our Division has been somewhat protected and has reaped the benefits of having its roots firmly planted within two large institutions: University of Florida and Shands Healthcare System. In fact, our surgical load this year will surpass that of all previous years. This increase has been significant in the areas of implant surgery especially zygomatic implants. Our Division is becoming one of the main centers in the country placing zygomatic implants for dental rehabilitation. You can expect to see publications in the near future demonstrating our experience with this novel technique.

We had a successful Match in January this year and will be enrolling three applicants into our 6-year program starting in July 2010. Additionally, this new academic year, we are having a one-year non-matriculated intern. We are also reaching the milestone of graduating our first 6-year resident in June.

Another success story is the major renovation of clinic area that is currently underway. Not only are we increasing the number of operatories, we are also building a surgical suite within our clinic space. Our administrative offices and conference room are also expanding and we nearly have the entire floor of Learning Resources Building to ourselves. We are grateful to Dr. Robert Nuss, regional Dean of UF Jacksonville and the Department of Surgery leadership for their support and assistance regarding these endeavors. Once the renovation is fully completed, we will be having an open house and look forward to seeing you there.

Again, I hope your spring and summer are fruitful. I wish you health and look forward to seeing each of you throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Tirbod Fattahi, DDS, MD, FACS
Chief, Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
A Fellowship in the Making…

Nearly four years ago, our Division approached the leadership of our Health Science Center regarding the possibility of initiating a one-year fellowship in Head & Neck Microvascular Surgery. Our vision was to offer this position to an oral & maxillofacial surgeon who had completed residency and wished to pursue a career in head and neck surgery and contemporary microvascular “free flap” reconstruction. After a few months, our prayers were answered when UF approved our fellowship. Shortly thereafter, AAOMS also gave us its blessing by formally recognizing the fellowship.

In July 2007, Dr. Jason Lee, one of our former residents, became our first fellow. Under the tutelage of Drs. Rui Fernandes and Nelson Goldman, Jason had a tremendously productive year. The fellowship produced over 25 microvascular flaps and nearly 60 regional flaps. Jason entered private practice in Scottsdale, Arizona and after one and a half years, decided to return to Florida. He currently practices in Tallahassee with another UF Jacksonville grad, Dr. Barrett Tolley, providing head and neck and microvascular services for Tallahassee Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Alessandro Cusano was our 2nd microvascular fellow. Alessandro finished his OMS training at UCSF and entered the fellowship in July 2008. The total number of flaps increased during this year and the surgical experience of the fellow was further enhanced. Upon completion of his fellowship, he decided to take a hospital based OMS practice in Fargo, North Dakota at the Mericcare Health System. Like his predecessor, Dr. Cusano has been able to incorporate head and neck surgery and microvascular reconstruction into his OMS practice.

Our current fellow, Dr. Philip Pigrousis arrived in Jacksonville in July 2009 via Adelaide, Australia. An OMS and head and neck surgeon in Australia, Phil became our 3rd microvascular surgery fellow. As anticipated, he has experienced a voluminous surgical load. This year will be the busiest year of the fellowship. Patient referral patterns have greatly expanded well beyond the borders of the state of Florida both nationally and internationally. We are anticipating over 60 microvascular free flaps by the end of this academic year. Dr. Pigrousis will join the Maxillofacial Surgery Unit at Southern General Hospital at Glasgow, United Kingdom upon completion of his fellowship in June 2010 where he will be actively teaching OMS residents.

The success of the fellowship in just three years has been recognized by many. A few months ago, the Department of Surgery at UF Jacksonville created the Section of Head & Neck Surgery within the Division of OMS. This Section is headed by Dr. Rui Fernandes. Our 4th fellow, Dr. Daniel Petrisor will be joining us in July 2010 and we have already selected the fellow for 2011-2012 class and are actively interviewing for the entering class of 2012-2013.

**CASE REPORT**

**Marginal Mandibulectomy Defect Reconstructed with Cranial Bone Graft and Dental Implants**

This is a 68-year-old female who was referred to our Division after a routine dental examination revealed an ulcerative lesion in the left mandibular gingiva.

Clinical, radiographical and histopathological evaluation revealed that the patient suffered from T2 squamous cell carcinoma of the left mandibular gingiva. Subsequently the patient underwent a marginal mandibulectomy with a selective neck dissection. Pathological specimens revealed clear margins and no neck involvement, therefore radiation therapy was not required.

After 6 months of close follow up the patient was deemed ready for mandibular reconstruction.

**In the news…**


**August 2009** Drs. Rui Fernandes and Luis Vega successfully participated in the 18th Latin American Congress of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Porto de Iguaçu, Brazil.

**September 2009** Dr. Luis Vega was the keynote speaker for the 50th Anniversary Congress of the Argentinean Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Cordoba, Argentina.

**October 2009** Dr. Todd Reuter (Chief Resident) won “The Best Oral Abstract Presentation” at the 9th AAOMS Meeting in Toronto, Canada.

**January 2010** Dr. Barry Steinberg traveled to Afghanistan as part to the Army’s Civil Affairs Division.

**February 2010** Dr. Tibesh Fatashi was invited to become a Board Examiner by the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

**March 2010** Dr. Brian Low (Alumni) received his Board Certification from the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

**March 2010** Dr. Alan Herford, Chairman of the Department of OMS at the University of Loma Linda, California was our visiting professor and lectured on BMP uses in oral & maxillofacial surgery.

**April 2010** Dr. Justin Clemow (PGY3) exchanged wedding vows with Dr. Christina Cavalier (Radiology resident).

**May 2010** Dr. Todd Reuter and his wife, Elena, welcomed the birth of their second child, Audrey.

**May 2010** Dr. Wes Hill (PGY5) and his wife, Diya, welcomed the birth of their first child, Malina.

**May 2010** Dr. Kevin Brewer (PGY2) exchanged wedding vows with Shahzad Antimkede.