

Dear OMI faculty, fellows, and friends!

With summer in full swing, it is time for our next newsletter. Busy as bees, OMI faculty orchestrate programs in Salzburg, Mexico City, and beyond, furthering our mission of improving medical education worldwide. For this edition, we have handpicked the best OMI stories of the past three months for you. Starting in mid-July, Schloss Arenberg will once again be filled with children's laughter and music during the annual opera camps of the Vienna Philharmonic. The OMI program will resume at the end of August. Until then, we wish you a fabulous summer!



Institut Pasteur's Global Health Mastery in Salzburg

Seven years ago, the OMI and the Institut Pasteur in Paris embarked on an educational mission to address global health concerns. In the first week of June, chief virologist Dr. Jean-Pierre Vartanian led a one-of-a-kind seminar revolving around viral hepatitis and hepatocellular carcinoma. With twelve distinguished professionals from across Europe as well as doctors and researchers from 23 countries, the event was a true testament to global health. Dr. Vartanian and his colleagues will join the OMI once more this year in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for a virology course directed toward fellows from

Southeast Asia. Together, we are making strides in global health!

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25 Years of Family Medicine with Duke University

In April, we celebrated 25 years of partnership with Duke University, a front-runner in family medicine and community health. Since our first seminar, we have been able to impact more than 1,000 general practitioners from more than 45 countries around the globe. Course director Dr. John W. Ragsdale III and his dedicated faculty recently established a comprehensive age-specific curriculum, focusing on maternal and child health, adult medicine, and geriatrics. With Duke's presence in Salzburg and Mexico City, we look forward to another 25 years of joint accomplishments.

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From Theory to Patient Care

The Salzburg Weill Cornell Seminar in Otology and Temporal Bone Surgery is truly unique. It is an amalgam of an intensive lecture experience and an outstanding surgical laboratory exposure, serving as a bridge between theory and practice. Last week, under the guidance of world-renowned otologic surgeons, 37 young doctors from 28 countries had the chance to discover the complex anatomy of the ear and perform various procedures, including mastoidectomy, stapedectomy, and cochlear implantation.

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Educating Future Healthcare Leaders

Leadership is key to the success of many human endeavors. Education, sports, the arts, journalism, law, and medicine – all can trace successful outcomes to the quality of leadership that is provided. As healthcare grows more complex, it is more important than ever for physicians to be effective and engaged leaders. Realizing that many doctors lack formal leadership training, the OMI developed a tailor-made interdisciplinary leadership program, complementing the fellows' clinical education. In the last three months, we hosted four leadership courses in Salzburg and Mexico City, where fellows could work with international leaders and develop their capabilities to lead.

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Update from the OMI Mexico Chapter

The OMI MEX seminars bring together the best we have to offer: Medical expertise, enthusiastic fellows, and a unique learning environment. In the first semester of 2024, we granted 189 fellowships to Latin American doctors and researchers from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Uruguay. Thanks to our committed faculty from Weill Cornell Medicine, the Institut Pasteur, and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for running the first six OMI MEX courses this year. Seven more are yet to come!

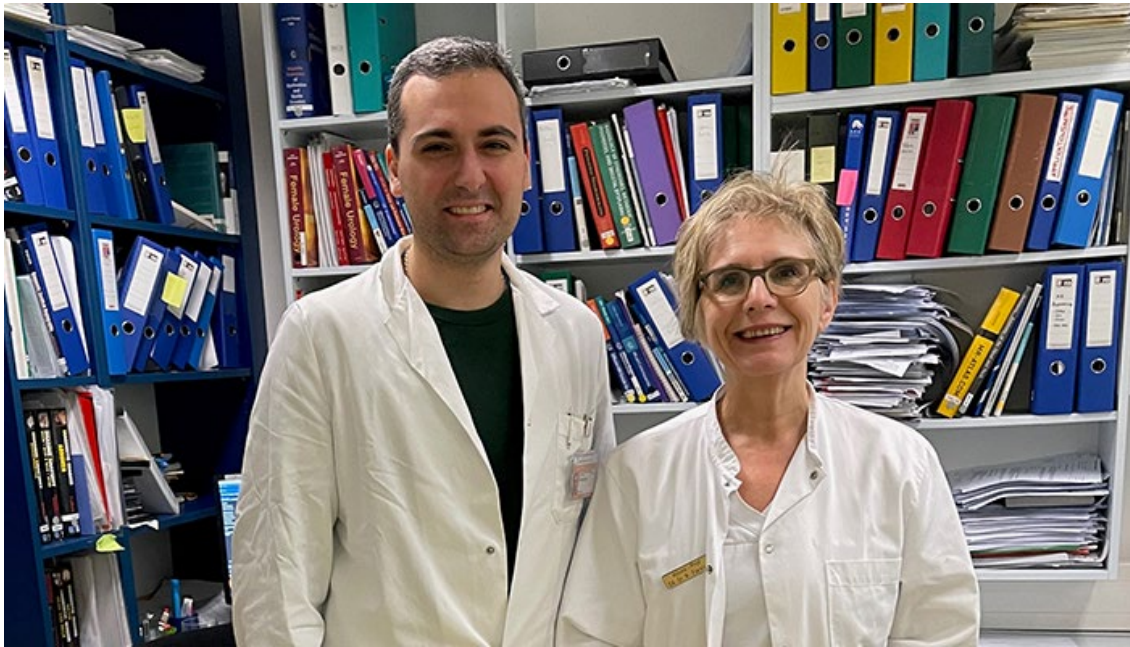
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Little Heart Heros

We believe in the power of collaboration to create transformative change. When dedicated individuals come together and pool their collective skills and experiences, remarkable feats can be accomplished. In April, following an OMI seminar in Salzburg, CHOP experts Dr. Elizabeth Goldmuntz and Dr. Joseph W. Rossano traveled to Bratislava, Slovakia, to teach an OMI satellite symposium in pediatric cardiology. The leaders of the local pediatric cardiac center, Dr. Lubica Kovacikova and Dr. Martin Zahorec, are two OMI alumni who in the past decades put an enormous effort into creating a brighter future for children with heart conditions. Ongoing support through the OMI and CHOP has enabled them to make a powerful impact on progressing their life-saving work.

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When A Dream Comes True

Eager to learn, friendly, and quick to smile are some of the traits that describe Dr. Hovhannes Vardevanyan best. He is a young radiologist from Yerevan, Armenia, who recently spent an exciting month at the General Hospital of Salzburg. Get a glimpse into his day-to-day life as an OMI observer and learn more about how the OMI programs profoundly transformed Dr. Vardevanyan's career.

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Not the End, but the Beginning

“This alumni reunion was like a family reunion! I am still in touch with some of the colleagues whom I met in Salzburg to solve difficult cases. The friendships forged at the OMI last forever and I am grateful for being part of this wonderful community,” says Dr. Dilyana Vicheva, an ENT specialist from Plovdiv, Bulgaria. She, along with 40 OMI alumni and faculty from the Salzburg ENT and otology and temporal bone surgery programs gathered during the recent European Congress of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery in Dublin, Ireland. Special thanks go to our faculty Dr. Michael G. Stewart (Weill Cornell Medicine) and Dr. Cem Mecoc (Ankara University) for organizing this reunion. Until next time!

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Call for Applications 2025

Are you ready to take your career to the next level? The 2025 OMI seminar program is now open for registration, and we cannot wait for your application! Join motivated colleagues from around the world in Salzburg, Austria, for a one-week course in your medical discipline. The OMI seminars consist of state-of-the-art lectures, case presentations, workshops, and hands-on training. Leading experts from the United States and Europe are enthusiastic to share their knowledge and experience with you.

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Please visit our website and blog to enjoy even more OMI updates!

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Yours sincerely,



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CEO | Open Medical Institute
A Program of the American Austrian Foundation

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