WSUPG Neurosurgery Gains Another Physician

Jay Jagannathan makes the move from resident to faculty.

After spending the last year with us as chief resident in the department, Jay Jagannathan has decided to stay with Neurosurgery. As of July 1st, Dr. Jagannathan is our newest faculty member and physician within our group. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge, experience, and skill to our practice.

Starting his education at the California Institute of Technology, Dr. Jagannathan quickly moved onto medical school at the University of Maryland. Gaining distinction from the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society, Dr. Jagannathan didn’t move far for his next opportunity to further his medical education and career.

As a both an intern in general surgery and resident in neurosurgery at the University of Virginia, Dr. Jagannathan began to hone his expertise in the same skills and techniques he provides for patients today. Taking not only the time to learn neurosurgery, Dr. Jagannathan also completed training programs in neuro-oncology, radiosurgery, spine, and also spent time in New Zealand learning neurosurgical techniques and procedures. And if this wasn’t enough, Dr. Jagannathan also found time to coauthor over 50 peer-reviewed articles in this period, publishing in journals such as Neurosurgery, Neurosurgical: FOCUS, Surgical Neurology, Spine, and the Journal of Neurosurgery.

Dr. Jagannathan’s next move was to join us here at Wayne State, where he spent a year as our chief resident, further increasing his neurosurgical knowledge. After his recent graduation, he welcomed the opportunity to join our clinical faculty ranks and provide his great wealth of knowledge to future generations of neurosurgical residents. Please congratulate and welcome Dr. Jagannathan on this next step in his career.
Our group of students again provides an invaluable service over their break.

As the summer months have come and are now on their retreat towards autumn, they leave with them a few certainties. One is that it will begin to get cooler and the nights will grow longer. The other is that another successful summer was spent here in Neurosurgery by a group of dedicated summer students. These students worked on a variety of projects to assist our department in various and invaluable ways.

Our eight students this summer were:

- Kaitlin Arnold, Michigan State University
- Zack Bekowies, University of Michigan
- Wynneth Daywalt, Central Michigan University
- Jamie Ding, Princeton University
- Kelsey Flynn, Northeastern University
- Alex Jones, Michigan State University
- Marciela Lewis, Wayne State University
- Brian Like, Boston College
- Brad VandeVusse, Hope College

The projects the students worked on while here were varied and numerous. One of the main tasks was to work on scanning our medical charts so they could be sent off-site to conserve space. This summer, the students scanned over 4,000 charts and merged over 8,000 documents.

Moreover, just like last summer, it’s been reported that the students have been performing this task with alarmingly amazing accuracy. This attention to detail is essential for a project of this type and our summer students handled it with the greatest of ease.

So, as autumn approaches, so does the end of our time with another group of great summer student workers. They, as always, have provided invaluable and important work that does much for the success of our department. Thanks summer students!

The work of our summer students does not stop there, however. Another interesting project that our students engaged involved our resident alumni and their associated files. Our students undertook the arduous task of scanning the photographs of each of our resident alumni, which are currently found in our UHC offices. Additionally, the students also undertook more scanning by creating digital versions of resident portfolios. This work should make it easier in the future to access and use these files, and create additional open space in our offices.

Two of our summer students, Wynneth Daywalt and Brian Like, got a chance to visit the operating room before their summer work was over with the department and see some of our neurosurgeons at work up close and personal.
What’s on Your Mind?
Another Wonderful Department Picnic

The annual department picnic was held on July 10th at the George Osius Park in Grosse Pointe Shores. Held every year to celebrate the graduation of our residents, the guest of honor is our newest faculty member, Jay Jagannathan. While the location may have been new this year, the good times had by all were the same as they have always been.

While the weather may have been a little warm, there were enough cool beverages and treats to keep everyone comfortable and in good spirits. Family members and department members were seen enjoying swimming and other outdoor activities, and others were seen having a good time with some conversation in the sun (or shade) and listening to jovial music that the DJ was playing. The wide selection of food was also a hit, and created many a full stomach by the end of the day.

Celebrations for Dr. Jagannathan were great as well; many a funny moment was shared by our residents and faculty, and many a heartfelt sentiment was shared as well. We congratulate Dr. Jagannathan on his graduation and entrance into the ranks of our esteemed physicians. Here’s looking forward to next year’s celebration!

Another Addition to Our Neurosurgical Faculty

In addition to Dr. Jagannathan in our cover story, we have another addition to the ranks of our esteemed and skilled physicians. Asad Mazhari has joined our practice, providing another skilled and talented neurosurgeon that our patients can go to for complete, compassionate care.

Dr. Mazhari has extensive training in medicine and the neurosciences, studying at both Harvard and Georgetown. He has also spent time at Kashani Hospital in Iran and at the University of Texas in Houston.

Dr. Mazhari has also published in a variety of journals and has taught previously at universities in both Iran and the United States. He is skilled in general and clinical neurosurgery.

Please be sure to welcome Dr. Mazhari the next time you see him in our offices. He is a welcome addition to our team.

Have you become a fan of the Department’s Facebook page yet? If not, do so here:

Did you know?

Spinal Muscular Atrophy is motor neuron disease that affects approximately 1 out of 6000 infants every year.

The neurons of the voluntary muscles are affected, making it hard for those affected to eat, walk, or even breathe. More information can be found at:
http://www.fsma.org/Home/

Upcoming Dates of Interest:

08.11.10 - 09.09.10: Ramadan
08.13.10: Only Friday the 13th of 2010
09.06.10: Labor Day
09.08.10: Rosh Hashanah
09.10.10: Eid-al-Fitr
09.11.10: Patriot Day
09.17.10: Yom Kippur
09.22.10: Autumnal Equinox
On the Brain for August
A Neurosurgical Mad Lib

Fill out the appropriate areas in the following tale of intrigue and excitement.

One day, Dr. ______________ (1) was walking along a path that was found in ________________ (2). Why Dr. ________________ (1) was walking on the path was anybody's idea, but it certainly seemed like they were headed towards ________________ (3). To save time, while Dr. ________________ (1) was walking, they were also ________________ (4) to make sure they were ready for the ________________ (5) that was sure to be at ________________ (3). Being one of the world's foremost experts on ________________ (6), Dr. ________________ (1) had no fear while walking and ________________ (4) on the way to ________________ (3).

However, not all was as ________________ (7) as Dr. ________________ (1) thought. Waiting in the ________________ (8) next to the path, Dr. ________________ (9) was hiding. Dr. ________________ (9) was ________________ (10) because Dr. ________________ (1) had ________________ (11) their ________________ (12) one day after clinic, and this had made Dr. ________________ (9) very ________________ (13). Instead of just ________________ (14) another ________________ (12), Dr. ________________ (9) had decided revenge in the form of ________________ (15) was the best way to deal with the situation. ________________ (5) or not, they were determined to follow Dr. ________________ (1) to ________________ (3), and to make sure that the ________________ (16) needed for vengeance did not ________________ (17) before they made it to ________________ (3).

Suddenly, ________________ (18) appeared, and they did not look ________________ (19). In fact, they resembled a ________________ (20) caught in a ________________ (21). ________________ (18) jumped out into the path and exclaimed, "__________________________!" (22) This certainly made Dr. ________________ (9) fearful and respond, "__________________________." (23) Which of course, caused Dr. ________________ (9) to run away and hide in the nearest ________________ (24).

After all was said and done, Dr. ________________ (1) finally made it to ________________ (3). Once there, Dr. ________________ (1) ________________ (25) the ________________ (26) brought along for the trip, and turned for home. However, before leaving, Dr. ________________ (1) exclaimed, "__________________________!" (27) Indeed.

(1): Surname of one of our doctors.  (16): A type of food.  
(3): Another location.  (18): Another department member.
(9): Surname of another one of our doctors.  (24): A store you would find in a mall.
(12): A noun.  (27): Title of a Christmas carol.
(13): An adjective.  
(14): A verb ending in –ing.  
(15): An action.

Last Month’s Winner: Marilyn Rutkowski!

All completed entries should be given to Brandon. They will all be judged, and the one deemed the most original and entertaining will win. Good luck!

Neurosurgery News
Volume Two, Number Four
August 2010