

## **SALZBURG CHOP SEMINAR PEDIATRIC ENDOCRINOLOGY/NEPHROLOGY**

April 9–15, 2017

• 31 fellows from 19 different countries and regions
• 7 faculty members from the United States and Austria
• 20 lectures and 4 workshops given by faculty
• 27 interesting cases presented by fellows
• 12 cases selected by faculty to be published in the Online Case Library

The 2017 Salzburg Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Pediatric Nephrology and Endocrinology Seminar sponsored by the American Austrian Foundation took place at the Schloss Arenberg from April 9th to 15th. The seminar was attended by 31 fellows, selected among 89 applicants. The diverse group of fellows were residents, pediatricians and specialists in nephrology and endocrinology who came from 19 countries.

The faculty was composed of 2 nephrologists and 2 endocrinologists from CHOP and 3 nephrologists from Graz. The lectures addressed a broad range of topics that included the basics in pediatric nephrology and endocrinology as well as some cutting edge topics such as new renal imaging techniques and the endocrine management of transgender youth. The lectures generated much discussion both in the question and answer periods after the lectures and later on in one-on-one interchanges between faculty members and fellows.

In addition to the lectures, both faculty and fellows had the opportunity to share interesting cases during workshops on 2 afternoons. The cases served as excellent tools for further learning and discussion on many important topics. The best of the fellows' case presentations were chosen for the Scientific Case Library. Several of the cases had either been published or were worthy of publication and all of the cases were interesting and reflected the enthusiasm and knowledge of the presenter.

Faculty and fellows had many opportunities to get to know each other during mealtimes and social events. This provided a platform for learning about the practice of medicine in different countries as well as an informal exchange of ideas. Fellows were able to approach faculty for advice regarding cases that they are managing in the home institutions.

On Thursday evening, fellows and faculty enjoyed an excellent private recital by a pianist and violinist who performed works by Mozart as well as other composers. At the farewell reception and graduation dinner, certificates of attendance were awarded to the participating fellows. Fellows whose case presentations were chosen for the Scientific Case Library and the best overall participant was recognized.

During the seminar, both faculty and fellows made connections that will hopefully be ongoing through Internet communication and the potential for fellows to participate during observerships in Philadelphia and in Graz.

**Faculty Photo (L-R): Dr. Bassil Kublaoui, MD, PhD, Dr. Ekkehard Ring, MD, Dr. Erum Aftab Hartung, MD, Dr. Wilma C. Rossi, MD, Dr. Benjamin Laskin, MD, Dr. Birgit Acham-Roschitz, MD, Dr. Christoph J. Mache, MD.**



**Group photo of Faculty and Fellows:**



## SEMINAR DIARY FROM FELLOW

### Diary of Marija Kocic, MD

Mother and Child Health Care Institute of Serbia, Belgrade

2017 Salzburg CHOP Pediatric Nephrology & Endocrinology Seminar

Sunday 9 April – Saturday 15 April 2017

Dear diary,

**Sunday, April 9** - On early Sunday morning, I arrived in Vienna, where I caught a train to Salzburg. While train rode through the beautiful landscapes of Austria, I was pretty nervous, but positive and enthusiastic to meet the beautiful city of Mozart and my hosts in Arenberg Castle. It was love at first sight. I enjoyed my Sunday afternoon soaking up the sun on my skin, and the beauty of the city by the river Salzach. As the sun was setting, I was overwhelmed with the sounds of music from Mirabel Castle. In the evening I met the faculty, my new colleagues and future friends.

**Monday, April 10**- First thing first was breakfast, after which we had an introduction lecture by course director Professor Wilma Rossi about main objectives of the Course and after the introduction, we were given some points about how to design slides and give an appropriate presentation, which was very useful and inspiring. After the introduction, we had a pre-seminar test. I can say that it was a challenge for resident, and I was not satisfied with my results. I realized that I have to give my best to absorb as much as I can during the lectures, as it was a privilege and an obligation to my professional work.

**Tuesday, April 11**- We felt more relaxed, the day was followed by a fantastic lectures, including two of them by Dr Acham Roschitz about Hypertension and AKI, which were striking and very important for everyday clinical practice. Later in the afternoon half of our group was breaking the ice with the first case presentations.

**Wednesday, April 12**- In the middle of the week, very important lecture, as one of the ongoing pediatric dilemmas, was given by Prof. Rossi, about puberty. Nevertheless important and great lectures were given by Prof. Ring about Vesicoureteral on reflux ant UTI, Dr. Laskin about Newborn Kidney Disease and Adrenal Disorders by Dr. Kublaoui. The afternoon was free; the day was amazing for another cruise through the beautiful city. Together with my

dear colleagues from the Croatia, I was admiring every corner and every incredible view from the city walls and castles.

**Thursday, April 13-** Thursday was the day when it was my turn to give a presentation of a case. I was so nervous; my heart was pumping hard as I was making the last rehearsal until it was time to go public. Before the time came, we had incredible lectures on Tubular disorders, Dialysis and Nephrotic syndrome, which were very clear and concise, and clarified to us these medical problems. Thanks to the faculty and my colleagues, case report presentation went good, they were very supporting and asking a lot of questions. We made it through together. Later in the evening, we had a chamber concert by talented violinists from the Mozarteum, accompanied by a great piano virtuoso. Another privilege for us and joyful moments. We spent quality time with our faculty, in pleasant conversations over a glass of wine, and if I may say that we made a spontaneous and excellent connections with each other. It was a great pleasure to have Prof. Ring with us, whose presence made a special evening.

**Friday, April 14** - Holly Friday - big Christian holiday. After finishing the lectures, we had a final test which showed how much we improved our knowledge. I did it so much better, it turned out enough for special diploma of academic excellence- for "the best improvement". We were all so excited about the gala dinner. A special welcome and farewell was given by kind and great Wolfgang Aulitzky. The evening was so classy and beautiful; we did not want to go home.

**Saturday, April 15-** Early in the morning, i haven't slept much, rewinding the last 5 days in my head. Inside of me were intertwined feelings of sadness and gratitude for this wonderful experience, as I was saying good morning and goodbye to the singing birds, to pleasant staff, to Schloss Arenberg and wonderful city of Salzburg. I promised myself that i will come back one day.

So far, attending the OMI Seminar was the best experience in postgraduate medical education that I have had. I feel very grateful for all the given knowledge and most of all, beautiful people that I had met.