WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR in SALZBURG
in collaboration with 
Medical University of Vienna
"Diagnostic Imaging"
October 14 - 20, 2018
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SALZBURG WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

October 14 - 20, 2018

- 34 fellows from 25 different countries and regions
- 13 faculty members from the United States, Austria & Switzerland
- 27 lectures, 4 case presentations sessions and 2 ultrasound workshops given by faculty
- 33 interesting case presentations by fellows
- 8 excellent case presentations selected by faculty

Faculty Photo (L-R)
Florian A. Huber, MD; Suzanne E. Anderson, MD, PhD; Joseph Comunale, MD; Alan C. Legasto, MD; Peter Pokieser, MD; Franz Kainberger, MD; Lily M. Belfi, MD; David W. Trost, MD
Not pictured: Pascal A.T. Baltzer, MD; Benjamin Halpern, MD, MBA; Hannes Platzgummer, MD; Erich Sorantin, MD; Florian Wolf, MD, MBA, EBIR, EBCR
Group Photo of Faculty and Fellows
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WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR in SALZBURG

"Diagnostic Imaging"

October 14 – 20, 2018

FACULTY
Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD is the Medical Director of the American Austrian Foundation. He is Associate Dean for International Medicine and Distance Learning, Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Urology and Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Reproductive Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2016, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics in the Associated Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He is also Associate Prof. of Urology at the Medical University of Innsbruck and Visiting Professor at the Medical University of Vienna. Amongst others he is a member of the American, German and Austrian Societies of Urology and was awarded the Zuckerkandlpreis of the Austrian Society of Urology in 1989. In 1995 he received the Silver Medal, in 2007 the Golden Medal for Merits to the Republic of Austria and in 2014 the cross of honor of the Land Salzburg. As Director of the Medical Program of the American Austrian Foundation he has initiated the Open Medical Institute, a scientific and educational collaboration of Weill Cornell and the New York Presbyterian Hospital, the Children Hospital of Philadelphia, Duke University, Columbia University, the Cleveland Clinic and leading hospitals in Austria. Dr. Aulitzky earned his medical degree at the University of Innsbruck in 1977, was a research associate at the University of Uppsala, Sweden and the Rockefeller University, New York. He received his training as an urologist at the University of Innsbruck and the General Hospital of Salzburg. He is the author of more than 140 publications on Urology, Andrology and Health Care issues and is co-author of books on basic and clinical urology/andrology.

Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD
Director, Open Medical Institute
American Austrian Foundation
Associate Dean and Gerhard Andlinger Professor for International Medicine & Distance Learning
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Urology
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Reproductive Medicine
Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics
Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Associate Professor of Urology
Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria

Kärntner Straße 51/II/Top 4
1010 Vienna
Austria

Phone: +43-1-533-8658
Fax: +43-1-533-8658-10
Email: w.aulitzky@openmedicalinstitute.org
David W. Trost, MD (Course Director) is an Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology and former Director of Interventional Radiology at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York. He also serves as Associate Attending Radiologist at the New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Trost received his medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, DC. His postgraduate training included a residency in Diagnostic Radiology at St Vincent’s Hospital Medical Center in New York and a fellowship in Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology at New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center. His clinical interests are Inferior vena caval filters, minimally invasive tumor therapies including, ablation and embolization. His major research interest is vena caval filters. Dr. Trost currently serves as reviewer for Radiology, Transplantation and the Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology. In addition, he serves as examiner for the American Board of Radiology. Dr. Trost is a member of several professional organizations, The Radiological Society of North America, The Society of Interventional Radiology, and The Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe.

David W. Trost, MD  
Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology  
Director of Interventional Radiology  
Weill Medical College, Cornell University  
525 East 68th Street  
New York, NY 10065  
USA  

Phone: +1-212-752-7999  
Fax: +1-212-746-8463  
Email: datrost@med.cornell.edu
Franz Kainberger, MD (Co-Course Director) graduated in 1983 at the University of Innsbruck Medical School. From 1985 to 1990 residency at the Department of Diagnostic Radiology University Hospital Vienna/Austria. Since 1994, Associate Professor of Radiology at the Section of Osteology of the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and deputy-chief from 1995 to 2008. Since then, deputy chief of the Division of Neuroradiology & Musculoskeletal Radiology and Medical Director of the Computer Image Analysis (CIR) Lab. From 2004 to 2007 and again since 2011 he is member of the Board of Directors of the medical school at the Medical University of Vienna. He published 228 scientific papers in international and national scientific journals and 53 books or book chapters as an author or co-author. He has been involved in various activities of national and European scientific associations and congresses. Among the, he served as President of the Austrian Society of Radiation Protection (2005 to 2011, www.strahlenschutz.org ), as President of the College of Physicians of Vienna (2011 to 2015, www.billrothhaus.at ), and is currently President of the European Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology (www.essr.org ). From 2005 to 2011, he was Co-editor of the CME section of the journal “Der Radiologe”, since 2005 Member of the Editorial Board and since 2015 Section-Editor for Imaging of the “Wiener klinische Wochenschrift - The Central European Journal of Medicine”. Main research interests are in the field of musculoskeletal radiology (focussing on rheumatology, sports medicine and orthopaedic oncology), in computer-assisted imaging, and in radiation protection.

Franz Kainberger, MD
Division of Neuro- and Musculoskeletal Radiology & CIR-Lab
Core Unit for Teaching in Imaging
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-Guided Surgery
Vice-Director of the Medical School
Medical University of Vienna
General Hospital Vienna
Waehringer Guertel 18-20
1190 Vienna
Austria

Phone: +43-1-40400-5803
Fax: +43-1-40400-3777
Email: franz.kainberger@meduniwien.ac.at
Web: https://radnuk.meduniwien.ac.at/allgemeine-informationen/klinikleitung/franz-kainberger/
https://radnuk.meduniwien.ac.at/forschung/computational-imaging/
Suzanne E. Anderson, MD, PhD is a musculoskeletal radiologist. She grew up in Australia and did her radiology training at Royal North Shore in Sydney and subspecialty training in Musculoskeletal and Neuroradiology at the University of California San Francisco. Her fellowship training was with Dr. Lynne Steinbach and Dr. Harry Genant in radiology and Dr. JO Johnston in orthopedics tumor oncology. She became chief of the musculoskeletal section at the University of Bern Switzerland and completed her PhD there. Dr. Anderson's research interests include clinically related MSK MRI radiology including hip and spine, sports injury and MSK tumors and her efforts have earned her grants both in Europe and in Australia. Back in Australia Dr. Anderson became the inaugural Chair of Medical Imaging at the University of Notre Dame Australia with campuses in Sydney and Melbourne. She continues to be strongly involved in University and International Radiology Society Boards and Committees. She enjoys medical student, radiology trainee, international and Outreach education work. Dr. Anderson is currently a senior MSK consultant at Baden Hospital affiliated with the University of Zurich and continues with academic work at Sydney School of Medicine UNDA. Dr. Anderson greatly enjoys her MSK Teleradiology connect time with Australia supporting rural, remote and city emergency radiology centres. She currently lives with her husband and son Sal in Switzerland, enjoying nature, art and architecture. She greatly values family and friends and loves the beach.

Suzanne E. Anderson, MD, PhD
Professor of Radiology (AU), MD, PhD, DRANZCR
Baden Hospital, Affiliated with the University Zurich
Switzerland

Email: suzanne.anderson1@bluewin.ch
Pascal A.T. Baltzer, MD is a general radiologist with a special focus on oncological imaging, in particular gender imaging. He was trained at the Friedrich-Schiller-University in Jena, Germany under the supervision of the late Dr. Werner Kaiser, a pioneer in breast MRI. During his residency and postdoctoral qualification („Habilitation“) he both focused on diagnostic and minimal-invasive therapeutic procedures and specialized in Magnetic Resonance Imaging including a dedicated one-year fellowship in the local MRI research facility / medical physics department. After his board certification, he was appointed modality manager of breast imaging in Jena, Germany. In 2012, he moved to Vienna, Austria, becoming head of urogenital imaging and associate professor in radiology. Dr. Baltzer currently serves as associate editor at the European Journal of Radiology, executive board member of the European Society of Breast Imaging (EUSOBI), scientific ESR representative of the EUSOBI and head of the urogenital working group of the Oesterreichische Röntgengesellschaft (OERG). Besides his regular clinical and research activities, he enthusiastically reports thousands of breast and prostate MRI each year.

Assoc. Prof. Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. habil. Pascal A.T. Baltzer
Associate Professor of Radiology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna General Hospital
Waehringer Guertel 18-20
1090 Vienna
Austria

Phone: +43-1-40400-48180
Email: pascal.baltzer@meduniwien.ac.at
Lily M. Belfi, MD was born and raised in New York City. She graduated from Dartmouth College in 1998 with a Bachelors of Arts in Classical Studies. She received her medical degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 2002. She fulfilled her radiology residency at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, NY in 2007, and completed a fellowship in Body Imaging at New York Presbyterian Hospital Weill Cornell Medical Center in 2008. Lily M. Belfi MD is currently an Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology in the Division of Emergency/ Musculoskeletal Radiology at New York Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical Center in New York City, where she is also Director of Medical Student Education. She is recipient of the Weill Cornell Medical College Award for Teaching Excellence. She is founder and director of the Clinical Radiologist Educator Alliance for Teaching Excellence and is the 2016 recipient of the Herbert M. Stauffer Award for Best Education Paper from the Association of University Radiologists. She is the Association of University Radiologists’ Junior Representative to the Association of American Medical Colleges. As an active AAMC member, she serves on the Council of Faculty and Academic Societies on the Physician Resilience Committee. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, yoga, photography, and pottery.

Lily M. Belfi, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology
Division of Emergency/ Musculoskeletal Radiology
New York Presbyterian Hospital/ Weill Cornell Medical Center
525 East 68th Street, Room F-054
New York, NY 10065
USA

Phone: +1-212-746-2397
Fax: +1-212-746-7834
Email: lib9050@med.cornell.edu
Joseph Comunale, MD is a neuroradiologist with special interests in emergency neuroradiology and imaging of Multiple Sclerosis. He completed his undergraduate and medical studies through a combined degree program at the University of Rochester. He completed his radiology training at Pennsylvania Hospital and then a fellowship in neuroradiology at Weill Cornell Medical College and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Comunale is presently the Chief of Outpatient Imaging of Weill Cornell Medical College and is the Physician Leader of the Weill Greenberg Center site of Weill Cornell Imaging at NewYork-Presbyterian. He is an enthusiastic teacher of medical students, residents and fellows and has been awarded with the annual teaching award. He has been a board examiner for the American Board of Radiology and is active with the American Society of Neuroradiology. Dr. Comunale lives in New York City but spends much of his free time outside of the city training for and competing in horse jumping events.

Joseph Comunale, MD  
Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology  
Chief of Outpatient Imaging  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital  
1305 York Avenue, 3 Floor  /New York, NY 10021  
USA

Phone: +1-646-962-5806  
Fax: +1-646-962-0471
Benjamin Halpern, MD, MBA decided to pursue a career in radiology after finishing Medical School in Vienna, Austria. To start, he completed a 2-year post-doc research stay at UCLA, where he was lucky enough to work at one of the world's first PET/CT units. This stay fostered his interest in oncologic imaging and in particular hybrid imaging. Knowing that mastering hybrid imaging would require training in both Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, he first completed his Radiology residency in Vienna in 2009, and then decided to move back to the United States, where he completed additional training as a Nuclear Medicine resident at Harvard's Joint Program in Nuclear Medicine. He completed his Nuclear Medicine Residency in 2011, and then returned back to Austria to work as at the Medical University in Vienna, where he focused his hybrid imaging research on oncologic imaging and in particular in PET/CT and PET/MR. To round off his educational training, he completed a MBA degree in International Health Care Management at the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management. At this MBA program, he gained practical business experience, and studied the advantages and disadvantages of various health care systems around the world, which included visits to Johns Hopkins, Singapore, and India among others.

Benjamin Halpern, MD, MBA
Specialist of Radiology, Nuclear Medicine
Division for General and Paediatric Radiology
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-Guided Therapy
Medical University of Vienna
General Hospital Vienna
Waehringer Guertel 18-20
1090 Vienna
Austria

Phone: +43-1-40400-48180
Fax: +43-1-40400-48980
Email: benjamin.halpern@meduniwien.ac.at
Florian A. Huber, MD is a resident physician at the Institute of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology at the University Hospital Zurich. He specializes in musculoskeletal radiology. Dr Huber grew up in Vienna, Austria, were he also graduated from the Medical University of Vienna. Already in the first years of his medicine studies, he joined the student ultrasound organization “Sono4You”. Most of his active time there, he was part of the organization's executive committee and in charge of several projects, e.g. the establishment of Sono4You in Hamburg. His teaching activity has also included teaching ultrasound and radiology classes to degree students. He is currently lecturing at the Medical Faculty of the University of Zurich, as well as tutoring accredited courses of the Swiss Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (SGUM).

Florian A. Huber, MD
Resident Physician
Institute of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology
University Hospital Zurich
Raemistrasse 100
8091 Zurich
Switzerland

Phone: +41-43-253-05-54
Fax: +41-44-255-44-43
Email: florian.huber@usz.ch
Alan C. Legasto, MD is a radiologist who specializes in imaging of the heart and lungs. He was born and raised in the New York metropolitan area. He completed his undergraduate degree at the State University of New York at Buffalo before graduating from Ross University School of Medicine. After medical school, he completed his radiology residency at Long Island College Hospital. His fellowship training in Cardiothoracic Radiology was at Massachusetts General Hospital. Before coming to Weill Cornell Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Radiology in 2014, he was Section Chief of Cardiothoracic Radiology at Beth Israel Medical Center for 8 years. Dr. Legasto’s interests have always been in resident and medical student education, particularly Cardiothoracic Radiology education. He helped devise the resident curriculum for Cardiothoracic Radiology for several residencies. He has also worked with many residents on multiple education exhibits for national conferences. Dr. Legasto was voted by his Radiology residents Teacher of the Year a total of five times, thrice at Beth Israel Medical Center and twice at Weill Cornell Medicine. He has published numerous articles in as well as reviewed for several peer-reviewed journals. He has also been invited to speak at multiple national conferences most recently at the Society of Thoracic Radiology. He lives in New Jersey with his wife and three children.

Alan C. Legasto, MD
Assistant Professor of Radiology
Weill Cornell Medicine
New York-Presbyterian Hospital
1305 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021
USA

Phone: +1-646-746-2624 / +1-646-746-5442
Email: acl9007@med.cornell.edu
Hannes Platzgummer, MD is staff radiologist at the Department of Diagnostic Imaging and Image guided Therapy, Medical University of Vienna. He specializes in musculoskeletal imaging and has a research focus on peripheral nerve imaging. He is a peer reviewer for multiple major journals in the field of pain research, radiology and sonography. Dr. Platzgummer is currently subcommittee member of the Arthritis subcommittee of the European Society of Skeletal Radiology (ESSR) and deputy Head of the Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Section of the Austrian Ultrasound Society (ÖGUM).

Hannes Platzgummer, MD
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-Guided Therapy
Division of Neuroradiology and Musculoskeletal Radiology
Medical University of Vienna
Waehringer Guertel 18-20
1090 Vienna
Austria

Phone: +43-1-40400-48180
Fax: +43-1-40400-48980
Email: hannes.platzgummer@meduniwien.ac.at
Peter Pokieser, MD was born in 1960 in Vienna, Austria. He attended the Medical University of Vienna and obtained his medical degree in 1986. Later, in 1992, Dr. Pokieser was approved as a full radiologist. Since 1997, he is Associate Professor of Radiology at the Medical University of Vienna. He currently serves as Head of the Department of Radiology at the Sanatorium Hera in Vienna, Head of the Department of Radiology “Roentgen Waehring”, and Head of the “Unified Patient Program” of the Department for Medical Education of the Medical University of Vienna. Since 2017 he is visiting professor for deglutology at the University of Leuven. Since 1989, he leads the Austrian working group for the clinical application and research of videofluoroscopy of deglutition at the Medical University of Vienna. His research foci include interventional research on image guided parenchymal biopsies and intraoperative ultrasound of the liver and pancreas, large group elearning, and development of the “Unified Patient System” for multimedia-structured clinical case discussions. Dr. Pokieser is also active in international societies, where he serves as a Board member of the European Society for Swallowing Disorders, Treasurer of OESO, the World Society for Specialized Studies on Diseases of the Esophagus, Vice President of OESO Foundation in collaboration with the UNESCO “Chair for Digital Continuing Medical Education and Capacity Building” at the University of Geneva. He is also Member of OERG, DRG, ESR (the Austrian, German and European Societies of Radiology, respectively).

Peter Pokieser, MD
Associate Professor of Radiology
Medical University of Vienna
Waehringer Guertel 18-20
1090 Vienna
Austria

Email: peter.pokieser@meduniwien.ac.at
Erich Sorantin, MD was born in 1957 and, after finishing high school, he studied Medicine at the University of Vienna graduating in 1982. Afterwards he worked in several hospitals, fulfilled training as general practitioner and became fully qualified as Pediatrician and Radiologist. In 1988, he joined the team of the Department of Radiology, Medical University Graz, where he became a faculty member in 1994 and earned his professorship in 2002. Currently, Dr. Sorantin is the acting Head of the Section of Pediatric Radiology as well as the Head of the Research Unit for Digital Information and Image Processing. Moreover, he coordinates a multi-institutional, multidisciplinary academic network in Central Europe, which focuses on biomedical imaging and technology transfer of advanced pediatric care as well as radiation protection. Additionally, Dr. Sorantin served as a consultant for Computer graphics for the medical vendor Siemens concentrating on virtual endoscopic techniques for approximately eight years. During this cooperation, two products were brought to the market: the Virtuoso3D and the Leonardo Workstation. Moreover, several software releases for optimizing plain film post processing in pediatric patients. Dr. Sorantin has been married since 1984 and has three sons.

Erich Sorantin, MD
University Professor
Department of Radiology
Medical University of Graz
Auenbruggerplatz 34
8036 Graz
Austria

Phone: +43-316-385-84206
Fax: +43-316-385-4299
Email: erich.sorantin@meduni-graz.at
Florian Wolf, MD, MBA, EBIR, EBCR is a Vienna based radiologist specialized in Interventional Radiology as well as in Cardiovascular Imaging. He finished his medical school at Medical University of Vienna in 2000 with his doctoral thesis on vena cava filters. In 2008, he finished his radiological residency and started his Interventional Radiology training at the Division of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology in Vienna, one of the largest dedicated Interventional Radiology departments worldwide. His former chief, Prof. Johannes Lammer, is one of the most renowned interventional radiologists in the world and under his surveillance Dr. Wolf developed excellent skills in almost all parts of interventional radiology. Since 2014, he is Vice Director of the Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-Guided Therapy. Dr. Wolf's research interest include the field of CT and MR imaging of the heart as well as different topics in interventional radiology. He has authored and co-authored more than 40 articles in peer-reviewed journals, is author of 4 book chapters and gave a large number of scientific and invited talks on national and international meetings. Dr. Wolf is Co-founder of Vienna heart, a platform dedicated to training and teaching in cardiac imaging. In 2014, Dr. Wolf successfully finished as one of the first Austrians the EBIR (European board of Interventional Radiology) and EBCR exam (European Board of Cardiac Radiology). In 2014, he successfully got his MBA degree (Healthcare Management) at Vienna University of Economics Executive Academy.

Florian Wolf, MD, MBA, EBIR, EBCR
Associate Professor of Radiology
Vice Director of the Division of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-Guided Therapy
Medical University of Vienna
Waehringer Guertel 18-20
1090 Vienna
Austria

Phone:       +43-1-40400-58020
Fax:          +43-1-40400-58300
Email:        florian.wolf@meduniwien.ac.at
WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR in SALZBURG

"Diagnostic Imaging"

October 14 – 20, 2018

FELLOWS
Marija Abramovic, MD
Clinical Center of Montenegro
Ljubljanska bb
81000 Podgorica,
Montenegro
E-Mail: marija.abramovic86@live.com
Phone: +38-2-20420420

Ulker Ahmadova, MD
Mediplanet klinik in Baku
Y.Ibrahimli str1
1095 Baku,
Azerbaijan
E-Mail: ulker_huseyn@yahoo.com
Phone: +994 503766090

Namik Altinbas, MD
Ankara University School of Medicine
Talatpasa Bulvari Ibni Sina Hastanesi
06230 Ankara,
Turkey
E-Mail: namikaltin@gmail.com
Phone: +90-312-5082511

Arabiya Asliiddinova, MD
State Reseatch and Clinical Cancer Center
59 A Ismoili Somini street
734026 Dushanbe,
Tajikistan
E-Mail: arabsot_86@mail.ru
Phone: +99-2-918121880

Gayane Ayvazyan, MD
Scientific Center of Traumatology and Orthopedy
Marash 9th. str.
0047 Yerevan,
Armenia
E-Mail: gayushashotovna@gmail.com
Phone: +37-4-99277273
Ivana Blazic, MD
CHC Zemun
Vukova 9
11000 Belgrade,
Serbia
E-Mail: ivanablazic@yahoo.com
Phone: +38-1-3772629

Alma Brakus, MD
Centre for Radiology,
Clinical Centre of Vojvodina
Hajdukovka 1-4
21000 Novi Sad,
Serbia
E-Mail: alma.brakus@gmail.com
Phone: +38-1-214843142

Benjamin Conde Castro, MD
Mexican Social Security Institute
Cuauhtemoc Avenue
06720 Mexico City,
Mexico
E-Mail: drconde2004@yahoo.com.mx
Phone: +52-1-56276900

Mate Cs. Janvari, MD
Hungarian Defence Forces Medical Center
Robert Karoly Krt. 44.
1144 Budapest,
Hungary
E-Mail: csjanvari@gmail.com
Phone: +36-2-03831302

Pavel Gelezhe, MD
European Medical Center
Schebinka
129090 Moscow,
Russian Federation
E-Mail: Gelezhe.pavel@gmail.com
Phone: +7 926 3583699
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>E-Mail</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ferehiwot Getaneh, MD</td>
<td>Addis Ababa University College of Health Sciences</td>
<td>kebena 9086 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alembekalu@yahoo.com">alembekalu@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>+25-1-922743800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teodora Gogova, MD</td>
<td>UMHAT ‘St George” bul. „Peshersko shose“ 66</td>
<td>4000 Plovdiv, Bulgaria</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teodoragogova@yahoo.com">teodoragogova@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>+35-9-886470488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elene Gotsiridze, MD</td>
<td>European Limbach Diagnostic Group, Mr-Cheveli</td>
<td>Al. Kazbegi av.9 0160 Tbilisi, Georgia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gotsiridze.elene@gmail.com">gotsiridze.elene@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>+99-5-322370071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iryna Haidzel, MD</td>
<td>RSPC Cardiology</td>
<td>R. Luxemburg 110 220036 Minsk, Belarus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:irena.heidel@gmail.com">irena.heidel@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>+37-5-96860325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denizbek Kasymov, MD</td>
<td>Osh State Universitet Ashimahunova street</td>
<td>723500 Osh, Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:denizkkasymov@gmail.com">denizkkasymov@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>+99-6-655000087</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reinhard Kaufmann, MD
University Hospital of Salzburg
Muellner Hauptstrasse 48
5020 Salzburg,
Austria
E-Mail: reinhard.kaufmann@gmx.net
Phone: +43-6-644110013

Khulan Khurelsukh, MD
Intermed Hospital
Khan-Uul district, 15th khoroo,
Industrial 17040, Chinggis Avenue-41,
Intermed Hospital
17040 Ulan-Bator,
Mongolia
E-Mail: khulan.kh@intermed.mn
Phone: 976-77111109

Tanel Kordemets, MD
East-Tallinn Central Hospital
Ravi 18
10138 Tallinn,
Estonia
E-Mail: tanel.kordemets@gmail.com
Phone: +37-2-56150120

Vedran Markotic, MD
University hospital in Mostar
Bijeli brijeg b.b.
88000 Mostar,
Bosnia and Herzegovina
E-Mail: vedranmarkoticz@gmail.com
Phone: +38-7-63349280

Natalia Markova, MD
Motol University hospital
V Uvalu 84
15000 Prague,
Czech Republic
E-Mail: natalia.markova.nm@gmail.com
Phone: +42-1-0601 082 798
<table>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Omar Israel Mata Garcia, MD</td>
<td>Hospital Infantil de Mexico „Federico Gomez“</td>
<td>Dr. Marquez 162 Col. Doctores 06720 Mexico City/CDMX, Mexico</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oisraelmg@icloud.com">oisraelmg@icloud.com</a></td>
<td>+52-55 51077388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Michna, MD</td>
<td>Faculty hospital Kralovske Vinohrady</td>
<td>Srobarova 1150/50 10034 Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td><a href="mailto:misna.martin@gmail.com">misna.martin@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>00420-723-618871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christof Mittermair, MD</td>
<td>Salzburger Landeskliniken SALK, Landeskrankenhaus</td>
<td>Muellner Hauptstrasse 48 5020 Salzburg, Austria</td>
<td><a href="mailto:c.mittermair@salk.at">c.mittermair@salk.at</a></td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanstantsin Murashka, MD</td>
<td>Gomel Regional Clinical Oncology Center Medical</td>
<td>246012 Gomel, Belarus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kostya199172@gmail.com">kostya199172@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gustas Rimeika, MD</td>
<td>Vilnius university Faculty of Medicine Santariskiu g. 2</td>
<td>LT-08660 Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gustas.rimeika@gmail.com">gustas.rimeika@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>+37068816181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hamim Rusheke, MD
University of Dodoma
College of Health Science Road
022 Dodoma,
United Republic of Tanzania
E-Mail: rusheke@gmail.com
Phone: +25-5-713756900

Rada Sandic Spaho, MD
General Hospital
„Dr Milenko Marin“, Loznica
Bolnicka 65
15300 Loznica,
Serbia
E-Mail: saragospa@gmail.com
Phone: +381 64 889 6118

Melanie Schernthaner, MD
Medical University Vienna
Waehringer Guertel
1090 Vienna,
Austria
E-Mail: melanie.schernthaner@meduniwien.ac.at
Phone: +43-0-1404004818

Johannes Schwarzenberg, MD
Medical University of Vienna
Waehringer Guertel 18 - 20
1090 Vienna,
Austria
E-Mail: johannes.schwarzenberg@meduniwien.ac.at
Phone: n/a

Nargiza Shamansurova, MD
Central Clinical Hospital at the Health Sanitary Association of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Mirzo-Ulugbek district Ashhabad st 3
100077 Tashkent,
Uzbekistan
E-Mail: Gizyok@gmail.com
Phone: +99-8-712687732
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<tr>
<td>Oleksii Sorochan, MD</td>
<td>KhMAPE</td>
<td>Korchagintsiv str., 58</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sorochanop@gmail.com">sorochanop@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>+38-0-577252471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>61176 Kharkiv, Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florian Steiner, MD</td>
<td>LKH Salzburg</td>
<td>Muellner Hauptstrasse 48</td>
<td><a href="mailto:f.steiner@salk.at">f.steiner@salk.at</a></td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5020 Salzburg, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Sudarkina, MD</td>
<td>Novosibirsk State Medical University</td>
<td>52 Krasnyi prospect</td>
<td><a href="mailto:a.sudarkina@mail.ru">a.sudarkina@mail.ru</a></td>
<td>+73833159616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>630091 Novosibirsk, Russian Federation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behar Tocilla, MD</td>
<td>Spitali Amerikan Tirane</td>
<td>Rruga Lord Bajron Laprake</td>
<td><a href="mailto:behartocilla@yahoo.it">behartocilla@yahoo.it</a></td>
<td>+35-5-676608284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1001 Tirana, Albania</td>
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October 13, Saturday. It was on Friday afternoon when this adventure began. My flight took off from Mexico City to get 10 hours later to Frankfurt, Germany, and then, it took me two more hours to finally arrive at the airport of the beautiful city of Salzburg. During the flight, I had the opportunity to meet a colleague from Mexico City. We took a taxi and the driver showed us parts of the city and places which we had the opportunity to visit throughout the week. Once we got to the Schloss Arenberg, we checked in. They assigned me a room located on the fifth floor, with very modern facilities and everything you need to feel at home. It even had a window that could be opened to let you hear the wind in the leaves and smell the trees in the backyard. This is very difficult to do in the city I come from. That same night, we got ready to go out to see the city, we walked down the streets to see the Salzach river, and on the other riverside we found a city with buildings dating as far back as the year 1077, such as the fortress of Hohensalzburg, and also buildings as modern as the 2004 Mönchsberg Museum of Modern Art. This rich architecture is considered as World Heritage by the UNESCO.

October 14, Sunday. From very early on, I tried to make the most out of the day, by doing as much sightseeing as I could. It was impressive to find places such as the Museum of Salzburg, the lower part of the Cathedral of Sankt Peter, seeing they have tombs in the cemetery and very old catacombs; discovering that to get to the Museum of Modern Art, you have to take an elevator that will take you to the top of a mountain; being inside an ancient fortress, knowing where Mozart was born and ending with a visit to perhaps one of the most incredible gardens that I have ever seen at the Mirabell Palace. According to the seminar program, we had a welcoming event at 5:00 pm, with some cheerful and pleasant words from Dr. David W. Trost, which lead way to a dinner, where we began to exchange first impressions with other colleagues about the trip, the city and the reasons that made us attend the seminar.

October 15, Monday. At 7:00 am, breakfast was ready, accompanied by some delicious coffee to start the day; this was the case throughout the whole week. In the first hour of the seminar, we were given some indications, such as considering being on time etc. In addition, we had to take a seminar test with questions focused on the topics that we would hear about during the week. Dr. Lily Belfi held the first presentation on the theme of pediatric imaging. She gave it in a dynamic way, with multiple cases to identify and differentiate pathologies. During the seminar, there were coffee, lunch and dinner breaks apart from breakfast; alternating between presentations already scheduled and with the meals ready. This gave us the opportunity to meet other colleagues, take breaks and exchange ideas, plans and
projects in our professional practice, which was very useful and enriching to get feedback and gather new ideas. After lunch, we discussed very important topics in our practice, such as bone tumors, lung nodules, and radiation dose optimization. However, due to my practice in an oncology hospital, the one with the highest cases concentration in all of Mexico, the lung nodule presentation given by Dr. Alan Legasto, was especially useful. During the next days, Dr. Legasto gave further lectures related to lung and cardiac pathologies. At 2:45 pm, the fellows’ case presentations session began. My colleague, Dr. Omar Mata, started his presentation with a case of pulmonary tuberculosis in a pediatric patient and I followed immediately with my presentation of a very rare case of breast sarcoma. By Tuesday, all the attendees had given their presentations. We heard more than 30 different cases with very different and interesting pathologies, investigated through different modalities, going from x-rays to MRI and neuroradiology to skeletal muscle. The day ended with a presentation on the OMI given by Stephanie Faschang. She informed us about the mission and vision of the foundation, its objectives and the different programs it offers to meet the challenge of providing postgraduate medical education and training, like the one we are attending. So, this way, each of us can replicate them, thus, having a greater impact.

October 16, Tuesday. We started with the discussion of metabolic bone disease by Dr. Franz Kainberger. Among the most important contents that were reviewed was the usefulness of imaging methods to identify "fragility fractures". Later and during the rest of the day, we heard about neuroradiology topics presented by Dr. Joseph Comunale, such as multiple sclerosis, skull base pathology and spinal and brain tumors. All explained in a great way with incredible cases. Dr. Peter Pokieser spoke about swallowing disorders, which was very interesting and important for my work, because fluoroscopy is still a necessary modality. At 12:00 pm, Dr. Lily Belfi explained different tools that we can use in our teaching practice. As an academic and working in a University Hospital, I understand that these issues are transcendental and necessary in our daily practice. We finished this Tuesday with all the cases presented by the fellows in order to start at 5:00 pm with the biopsies and peripheral nerve search workshop. Both instructors were extremely patient and highly skilled. We were able to identify our weaknesses and strengths, which will help us to enhance our practice.

October 17, Wednesday. We started again with cases presented by the faculty. They showed us several cases, both frequent and rare pathologies in different modalities. At 9:15 am, Dr. Benjamin Halpern talked about all the evidence that exists regarding the new PET-MRI modality and he also shared his knowledge with us through multiple cases. Before noon, Dr. Erich Sorantin with an enviable enthusiasm and a unique joy explained the usefulness of ultrasound in pediatrics, emphasizing the thorax. Unlike the other days, we ended at 12:45 pm with the presentation of Dr. Lily Belfi on burn out. She provided us with important tools to identify it, such as scores and tests, and showed us multiple possibilities to treat it to avoid the possible consequences that can produce unfavorable results in patients and in our personal lives. We took the rest of the day to see more of the city.

October 18, Thursday. During the morning, Dr. Alan Legasto explained in an incredibly detailed way the pattern approach in lung disease and pneumonia with multiple cases and very useful references to continue learning with greater and up to date evidence. Subsequently, Dr. Pascal Baltzer went through the breast pathology and prostate cancer, with a main emphasis on using MRI with standardized classifications. Before lunch break, Dr. Franz Kainberger gave a talk on structured reporting, which I personally found was very important, because right now at our hospital we are doing these activities to obtain advantages from its use. I was free during the whole afternoon. It was my last day to visit some places I still wanted to see and get some souvenirs. In the evening at 8:30 pm, we had an excellent concert with a violin and piano duet, Gabriel Esteban and Elena Braslavsky, who performed masterpieces of Bach, Piatti and Beethoven.

October 19, Friday. This Friday is my last day and tomorrow in the morning, I will return to Mexico City with a great enthusiasm for having achieved the established goals, having exceeded my expectations and met very intelligent, active and happy colleagues. In the end, we can make an impact on people’s
lives in many ways. This seminar was by far the best one I have ever attended, and I think it is due to the fact that it took place at a unique and incredible destination, that we had excellent and top level professors, that the coordination and planning of the seminar was perfect and the most important, that each and every one of us was always highly active. We created a friendly and welcoming academic environment, a true network that helped us to achieve our academic goals. I am infinitely grateful to Salzburg, all the professors and my colleagues. I have plans to replicate what I have learned and I am more than interested in coming back and support AAF to reach its objectives. It was the most distant country I have ever been from home, but I felt always at home. Thank you very much.

Benjamin Conde Castro, MD (Mexico)
October 14, Sunday evening. I arrived at the Salzburg airport around noon. Sunny weather. Perfect start for new adventures. I reach the Arenbergstrasse and I check in my room – cozy, clean, a fantastic place. I had the whole afternoon to walk around in the old town and along the beautiful river Salzach. Many calm and friendly people, who enjoyed the good weather. At 19:30, after a warm welcome, the organizers invited us to share a tasty dinner. The food in Austria is really delicious.

October 15, Monday. The first day of lectures and the pre-seminar test. My initial worry was distracted after I saw the informal and casual style of Dr. Lily Belfi, Dr. Franz Kainberger and Dr. David Trost. We all could ask questions, discuss topics and debate if we wanted. All this accompanied by coffee breaks with delicious cakes.

October 16, Tuesday. I will remember this day not only because of the interactive and important information I learned from the lectures, but also because of the workshop in the afternoon. I performed my first model biopsy. I could not be happier.

October 17, Wednesday. The seminars was planed till lunch time – we all could see the passion and the devotion of all of the lecturers. The afternoon was our free time and as Salzburg is very near to the German border, a small group of us went to see some beautiful villages nearby – with high mountain peaks, misty meadows and fresh air.

October 18, Thursday. The day past quickly. The lectures of Dr. Legasto were very interesting and important to my practice. The highlight of the day was the Chamber Music Concert of Gabriel Esteban and Elena Braslavsky, organized specially for us. What an emotional and harmonic moment!

Teodora Gogova, MD (Bulgaria)