



SAUL D. MERIN, MD

Permanent Chief Ophthalmologist
Hadassah University Hospital in Jerusalem
Professor of Ophthalmology
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Visiting Professor of Ophthalmology, UIC

- Born in Bedzin, Silesia, Poland and emigrated to Israel, 1949.
 - MD from Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 1960.
 - Trained in ophthalmology at Hadassah University Hospital, from 1963 through 1968.
 - Completed fellowships in light photocoagulation, electroretinography, diabetic retinopathy, treatment of intraocular tumors, pediatric ophthalmology and laser photocoagulation.
 - Head of ophthalmology unit, Hadassah-Mt. Scopus Hospital (Jerusalem), 1979 through 1998.
 - Visiting appointments at UIC, State University of Kentucky, University of Toronto, and McGill University.
 - Member and Past President, Israel Ophthalmological Society
 - Member, American Academy of Ophthalmology
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Saul Merin, MD, Ophthalmologist and Humanitarian

Dr. Saul Merin's love of ophthalmology and passion for serving those in need have meshed in many humanitarian missions over the years. Since early in his career, he has been intimately involved with Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs efforts relating to health care in Africa (MASHAV). Operations began in 1959 when the late Professor Isaac C. Michaelson, then head of the Eye Department at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Centre in Jerusalem, designed a program to establish and staff a 30-bed eye hospital in Liberia's capital, Monrovia. Michaelson's concept was modeled on a formula in which Israeli specialists in ophthalmology would be dispatched to organize and help staff new eye departments in the developing country while, at the same time, doctors and nurses from that country would undergo specialized ophthalmological training in Jerusalem. On their return home, they would take over and run the eye-care units that had been set in motion by their Israeli colleagues.

Merin's first mission was to Malawi as one of two Israeli physicians who established and staffed a 30-bed eye department that provided the only eye services for the entire country. Rich in clinical and surgical experience, he returned to Jerusalem to finish the last of his five years in the official residency program, and received his specialist status in 1969-1970.

Since then, he has been involved with the establishment of similar medical centers in Lesotho, Swaziland, and Rwanda, and in the training of ophthalmic medical assistants and clinical officers. These non-physicians are trained to perform some of the duties of ophthalmologists in countries where one ophthalmologist serves about one million people. In addition, Merin frequently visits Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, and Tanzania as supervisor and consultant to eye departments there.

He also helped develop and participated in a lecture tour in Central and South America in 1980, addressing the unique eye care needs of Latin America.

Merin has published over 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and is currently working on the second edition of his contribution to research in ophthalmic genetics, *Inherited Eye Diseases*, soon to be published by Marcel Dekker, New York.



Annual spring meeting brings residents and alumni together

On June 9th, 2004, alumni returned to the UIC campus to

attend the department's annual meeting on Advances in Eye Disease, held in conjunction with the 28th Annual Residents–Alumni Day.

Highlights of the event included the Marvin D. Henry, MD, Memorial Lecture, the Peter C. Kronfeld, MD, Memorial Lecture, presentations by graduating residents of their research projects, and a dinner to round out the day's schedule.

Dr. Terri L. Young, director of the Ophthalmic Genetics Research Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and an associate professor in the University of Pennsylvania Department of Ophthalmology, gave the Henry Lecture, "Progress in the Molecular Genetics of Myopia." Young completed her residency at UIC in 1990.

Dr. Jennifer I. Lim, director of the Clinical Trials Unit in the Doheny Retina Institute and associate professor in the Department of Ophthalmology and the University of Southern California, delivered the Kronfeld Lecture, "New Avenues of Treatment and Clinical Trials in Age-Related Macular Degeneration Research." Lim also completed her residency at UIC in 1990.

The program began with presentations by graduating residents of their research projects (see sidebar). Also presenting were members of the faculty and clinical fellows, including: Jeffrey Bloom MD, Mark T. Duffy MD, PhD, Marsha Apushkin MD, Jingtao Guo MD, Timothy McMahon MD, Rashmi Kapur MD, Manali Doshi, Norman Blair MD, Lawrence Ulanski MD, Deepak Edward MD, Paras Shah MD, Jennifer Galvin MD, Marc Shields MD, Brian Kim, Akbar Shakoor MD, Michael Shapiro MD, Kimberlee Curnyn MD, and Charles Vygantis MD.

Support of the day's program was provided by Alcon, Allergan, Bausch & Lomb, Iridex, Lombart Instruments, Quantel Medical and Pfizer.

2004 Senior Resident Research Projects

Comparison of Post-Operative Pain in Patients Following Photorefractive Keratectomy Versus Advanced Surface Ablation

Richard Blake, MD

Intraocular Penetration of Topical Gatifloxacin or Oral Plus Topical Gatifloxacin Administration into Human Aqueous and Vitreous Fluids

Audrey Chen, MD

Herpes Virus Entry into Corneal Fibroblasts

Gary Chung, MD

Correlation Between Visual Field Area and ERG Responses in Patients with Retinitis Pigmentosa Including Usher Syndrome Type 2

Sandeep Grover, MD

Superior Tarsotomy Augments Super-Maximum Levator Resection in the Correction of Severe Blepharoptosis with Poor Levator Function

John Pak, MD, PhD

Predictors of Visual Outcomes in Ruptured Globe Injuries: Effect of Timing of Primary Repair

Annie Steele, MD

In memoriam

LAURENCE S. BRAUDE, MD, former assistant clinical professor, passed away December 6, 2003 in Santa Clara, California, of Multiple System Atrophy, a form of Parkinson's disease. Braude was born in South Africa in 1953. He earned his MD from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, completed his ophthalmology residency with the department in 1981 and a fellowship in cornea/external disease at Swedish Hospital in Seattle in 1982. He became a board certified ophthalmologist specializing in cornea and external eye disease. He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada. In March 2000, he retired from 17 years in private practice in Highland Park, Illinois. In addition to his association with the UIC, Braude was associated with Highland Park, Lake Forest, and Rush North Shore Hospitals.

"Laurence was a dedicated and skilled ophthalmologist who, as his illnesses progressed, became a knowledgeable advocate for the treatment and care of his disorders. He enjoyed life and will be missed," said Joel Sugar, MD, interim department head.

Braude loved Highland Park and was an active member of the community. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed music, theater, literature, art and travel. His sister, Solna Braude of Santa Clara, survives him.

SAAD ANAS EL-NAGGAR, MD, former UIC resident and fellow, passed away earlier this year in Cairo, Egypt, following a long illness. El-Naggar received his MD and completed an ophthalmology residency at Cairo University School of Medicine in Egypt. He also completed an internship at Michael Reese and, in 1990, a fellowship at UIC in pediatric ophthalmology. He completed another fellowship in surgical and medical retina at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and, afterward, joined TLC Eyecare & Laser Center at their Battle Creek, Michigan location. Sadly, he fell seriously ill shortly after starting his practice. Despite the serious nature of his illness and surgery to treat it, he married and continued working. A recurrence of his illness had caused him to decide to return to Egypt.

Last year, Marc S. Werner, MD, who was a resident with El-Naggar, gave a LADARVision® 4000 laser to the department's Lasik Center in his honor. Dr. Werner described El-Naggar as an extremely patient and excellent teacher.

In addition to his many contributions to colleagues, students and patients, El-Naggar designed two instruments which help minimize difficulties encountered during the extraocular muscle recession and resection required during strabismus surgery. He also wrote and self-published a manual for clinicians, *Diseases of the Retina and Vitreous for General Ophthalmologists*.