

SURGEON SCIENTIST

Symposium in Otolaryngology (S3O):

*Supporting the next generation
of clinician-investigators*

July 30-31, 2026

Vanderbilt University Medical Center | Nashville, TN

Co-Directors: Aaron C. Moberly, MD, and Justin H. Turner, MD, PhD

SURGEON SCIENTIST Symposium in Otolaryngology

Supporting the Next Generation of Clinician-Investigators

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SYMPOSIUM GOALS

The goal of the Surgeon Scientist Symposium in Otolaryngology is to provide instruction, mentorship, and career development tools to aspiring and promising residents, fellows, and early career faculty in Otolaryngology to establish a successful clinician-scientist career. This symposium provides high-quality training in research methodology, career development tools, and opportunities for mentoring by successful clinician-scientists.

This symposium can also supplement training of prospective attendees already undergoing mentorship and training at their own institutions to strengthen the network between trainees of all levels and resources across the country, pursuing the shared goal of maintaining and developing the biomedical workforce in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and the Communication Sciences.

COURSE DIRECTORS

Aaron C. Moberly, MD, received his Bachelor of Science from Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in 2002, and his medical degree in 2006 from Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, IN, where he also did his residency in Otolaryngology. He graduated from his fellowship in Neurotology at The Ohio State University Medical Center in 2013, and immediately joined their faculty. He joined Vanderbilt's faculty in October 2022.

In 2018, he was inducted as a Fellow of the Triological Society and won their Harris P. Mosher award for outstanding clinical thesis. Dr. Moberly focuses on all aspects of adult otology and neurotology. He has a special emphasis on cochlear implantation, including speech recognition and quality of life outcomes after cochlear implantation.

Justin H. Turner, MD, PhD, is a Professor and Chair of The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. Prior to joining UAB, Dr. Turner spent more than a decade at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, most recently as Professor and Vice Chair for Research.

He completed his undergraduate studies at Vanderbilt and subsequently received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees through the Medical Scientist Training Program at the Medical University of South Carolina. His clinical training included a residency in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the Johns Hopkins Hospital followed by a fellowship in Rhinology and Skull Base Surgery at Stanford University.

His clinical interests include the treatment and management of chronic rhinosinusitis, sinonasal and skull base tumors, CSF leaks, and olfactory dysfunction. He additionally leads an active NIH-supported translational research program focused on the immunology of chronic rhinosinusitis and mechanisms of olfactory loss.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Anaïs Rameau, MD, MPhil, MS, is an attending laryngologist and the Chief of Dysphagia at the Sean Parker Institute for the Voice at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, NY. She is an Assistant Professor and the Director of New Technologies in the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College. As a fellowship-trained laryngologist, she provides advanced expertise in the evaluation and treatment of swallowing, cough, voice, and airway disorders.

Together with speech pathologists, she has created the first multi-disciplinary dysphagia clinic in the New York City area. She has unique expertise in age-related dysphagia and is the first otolaryngology recipient of the prestigious Paul B. Beeson Emerging Leaders Career Development Award from the National Institute on Aging.

Prior to joining the Institute, Dr. Rameau was an otolaryngology resident at Stanford University and then a fellow at UC Davis Medical School, under the mentorship of Peter Belafsky, MD, MPH, PhD. Dr. Rameau's clinical goals are to provide expert and compassionate care for patients with dysphagia, both in the clinic and in the operating room, and to restore patients' swallowing function via advanced diagnostics technology, as well as refined endoscopic and surgical treatments.

Her research lab, The Laryngology Innovation Lab, aims to disrupt and innovate the fields of voice, deglutition, and airway science via transdisciplinary collaborations with engineers, bio-acousticians, designers, and social scientists. Through her clinical and research work, she is dedicated to finding preventative and restorative solutions to improve swallowing and decrease aspiration risk in patients with dementia, stroke, movement disorders, and inflammatory myopathies. She is developing expertise in the use of artificial intelligence in the diagnostic streamlining of laryngological and swallowing disorders.

In addition, Dr. Rameau is passionate about global health and has maintained an active relationship with the Otolaryngology Department at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare. Dr. Rameau is a Diplomate of the American Board of Otolaryngology and Fellow of the Triological Society, a distinction that only 5% of otolaryngologists achieve in the country.

THURSDAY, JULY 30

- 7:30 – 8:00 **Breakfast**
- 8:00 – 8:15 **Introduction, Agenda, and Expectations**
Aaron Moberly, MD
Eben Rosenthal, MD
Justin Turner, MD, PhD
- 8:15 – 9:00 **Panel: Why Clinician-Scientist? How Did I Get Here?**
Moderator: Eben Rosenthal, MD
Dylan Chan, MD, PhD
David Francis, MD, MS
Anaïs Rameau, MD, MPhil, MS
- 9:00 – 10:00 **Breakout Session: Let Me Save You Some Time: Mistakes I Have Made**
 Room 1: Residents and Fellows
 Room 2: Early / Mid-Career Faculty
- 10:00 – 10:15 **Break**
- 10:15 – 10:45 **Funding Mechanisms for Early Investigators**
Taha Jan, MD
Michael Topf, MD, MSCI
- 10:45 – 11:15 **Panel: Alternatives to NIH Funding**
Moderator: Alexander Gelbard, MD
Naweed Chowdhury, MD, MPH
David Kent, MD
Talat Alp Ikizler, MD
Eben Rosenthal, MD
- 11:15 – 12:00 **Panel: Grant Writing Tips and Tricks**
Moderator: Aaron Moberly, MD
Dylan Chan, MD, PhD
Justin Turner, MD, PhD
John Sunwoo, MD
- 1:45 – 2:30 **Breakout Session: Finances, Salary, and Negotiating as a Surgeon-Scientist**
 Room 1: Residents and Fellows
 Room 2: Early / Mid-Career Faculty
- 2:30 – 2:45 **Break**
- 2:45 – 3:45 **Workshop: Data Presentation**
Alexander Gelbard, MD
- 3:45 – 4:30 **Clinical Trials, Industry Partnerships, and Commercialization**
David Kent, MD
Peter Santa Maria, MD, PhD
- 6:00 **Dinner**
 Fat Bottom Brewery
 800 44th Avenue North
All invited

FRIDAY, JULY 31

- 6:45 – 7:45 **Breakfast & VUMC O-HNS Grand Rounds: "AI in Otolaryngology: From Epistemic Crisis to Epistemic Maturity"**
Anaïs Rameau, MD, MPhil, MS
- 8:00 – 9:15 **Panel: Nuts and Bolts of Starting Your Research Program Personnel (Posting Jobs, Interviews, Hiring)**
Moderator: John Sunwoo, MD
David Francis, MD, MS
Jordan Garcia, MD
Joshua Levy, MD, MPH, MS
- 9:15 – 10:15 **Breakout Session: Let Me Save You Some Time: Mistakes I Have Made**
 Room 1: Residents and Fellows
 Room 2: Early / Mid-Career Faculty
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:15 **Panel: Time Management (Clinic, OR, Research)**
Moderator: Aaron Moberly, MD
David Kent, MD
Peter Santa Maria, MD, PhD
Michael Topf, MD, MSCI
- 11:15 – 12:00 **Keynote Lecture: "Re-Imagining Laryngology in the Age of AI"**
Anaïs Rameau, MD, MPhil, MS
- 12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch**
- 1:00 – 1:45 **Sustainability of Research in Today's Climate**
Moderator: Eben Rosenthal, MD
Joshua Levy, MD, MPH, MS
Wesley Self, MD, MPH
Justin Turner, MD, PhD
- 1:45 – 2:30 **Panel: Disseminating Your Research and Changes in Medical Publishing**
Moderator: Anaïs Rameau, MD, MPhil, MS
Dylan Chan, MD, PhD
Naweed Chowdhury, MD, MPH
David Francis, MD, MS
- 2:30 – 2:45 **Conclusions and Closing Remarks**
- 2:45 – 5:00 **Faculty Office Hours**
- 5:00 **Adjourn**



INVITED FACULTY

Dylan K. Chan, MD, PhD

University of California, San Francisco
Professor and Director of Children's Communication Center in Otolaryngology

David Francis, MD, MS

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Associate Professor of Otolaryngology, Laryngology Section
Director of Outcomes Research

Joshua Levy, MD, MPH, MS

National Institute for Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Emory University School of Medicine
Clinical Director and Adjunct Investigator in Sinonasal and Olfaction Program, NIDCD
Adjunct Associate Professor of Otolaryngology, Emory University

Peter Santa Maria, MD, PhD

University of Pittsburgh
Vice Chair of Translational and Clinical Research
Professor, Division Chief of Otology & Neurotology
Director of Faculty Innovation

John Sunwoo, MD

Stanford University
Chief, Division of Head and Neck Surgery
Director of Head and Neck Cancer Research

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