

**MEDICAL
EDUCATION
BEYOND
BORDERS**

“Physicians worldwide, regardless of their nationality, strive to do what is best for their patients. The objective of the Open Medical Institute is to help physicians achieve their goals by providing free, state-of-the-art information and education in a neutral, non-threatening environment, which fosters the free exchange of ideas and experiences.”

GEORGE SOROS · OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS



MEDICINE FOR THE WORLD

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In the 1946 Constitution of the World Health Organization (WHO), it states that “(...) the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights for every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.” When the Iron Curtain fell in 1989, the standard of health in the former communist countries was alarmingly low. The infant mortality rate tripled, and the life expectancy dropped by ten years compared to Western Europe. This dire situation had multiple causes, one important factor being the isolation of physicians and experts due to the political situation, which resulted in lack of knowledge and professional experience exchange. In addition, the open borders triggered a tremendous brain drain of healthcare professionals who were looking for freedom and better job opportunities in the West, which dramatically worsened the situation in their home countries.

This was the moment when the American Austrian Foundation (AAF) decided to take action. Together with physicians from Weill Cornell Medicine, George Soros, the Open Society Foundations, as well as a group of philanthropists in Salzburg, the AAF initiated the Open Medical Institute (OMI). This medical education and mentoring program was offered to young, highly qualified physicians from Central and Eastern Europe who were willing to dedicate their professional career to their home countries. Soon many leading American, Austrian, and European medical institutions, other philanthropists, and the Austrian Federal Government joined the initiative.

It became apparent that many other low-income countries found themselves in a similar situation. Brain drain leads to severe shortages of physicians and nurses, resulting in lack of medical expertise, and a collapse of healthcare systems. Mexico is one of these countries. Many well-trained physicians cannot resist attractive offers from the neighboring United States. To combat this problem, Mexican philanthropists, led by Pablo and Almudena Legorreta, and the OMI joined forces in 2010 establishing Alianza Médica para la Salud (AMSA) and OMI MEX. The same OMI faculty who teach pro bono in Salzburg also travel to Mexico to train physicians from Mexico and Latin America.

We know that the Open Medical Institute has an enormous positive impact on local healthcare systems. Since 1993, more than 24,500 physicians from 128 different countries have been trained by the OMI. Thanks to career-long mentoring, OMI alumni are empowered and the majority of them stay in their home countries, building local capacity and fostering international relationships.

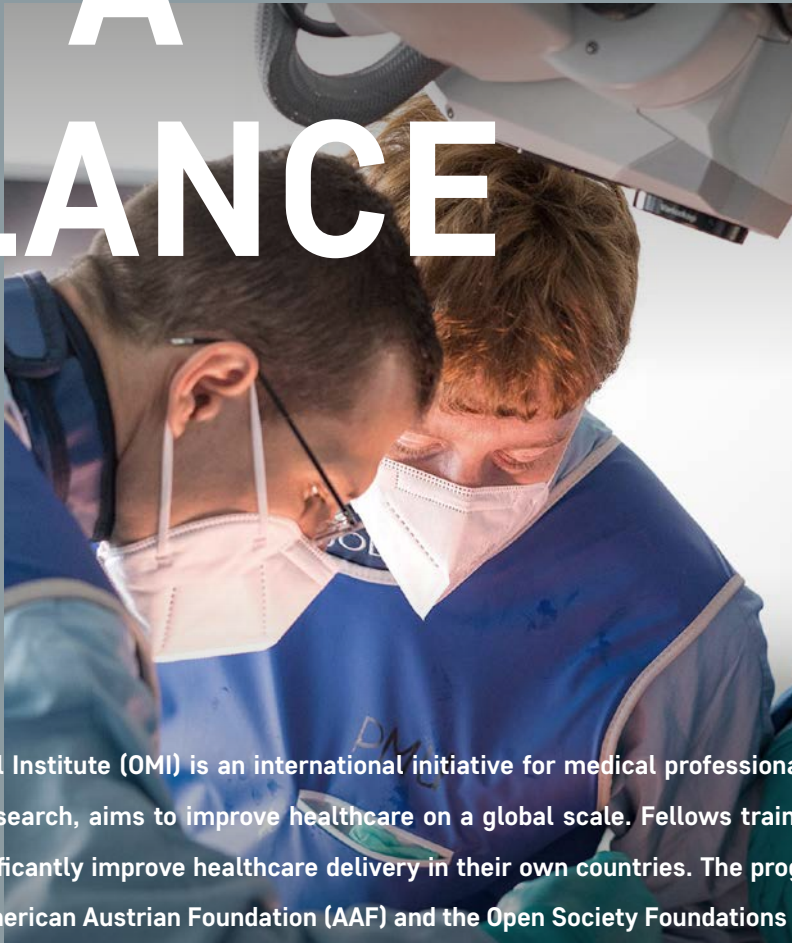
To solve the worldwide crisis and shortage of healthcare professionals, wealthier countries must train enough of their own doctors and nurses, rather than poaching them from poorer countries. We must respect the needs of low-income countries, supporting their best people and brains to ensure growth. Since resources in our world are limited, we must share wealth, knowledge, and expertise. The Open Medical Institute is fully committed to this goal.

Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD

CEO | *Open Medical Institute* | *American Austrian Foundation*
Associate Dean | *International Medicine and Distance Learning* |
Weill Cornell Medicine

OMI AT A GLANCE

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05



The Open Medical Institute (OMI) is an international initiative for medical professionals, which through education and research, aims to improve healthcare on a global scale. Fellows trained by the OMI are equipped to significantly improve healthcare delivery in their own countries. The program was founded in 1993 by the American Austrian Foundation (AAF) and the Open Society Foundations (OSF) in close col-

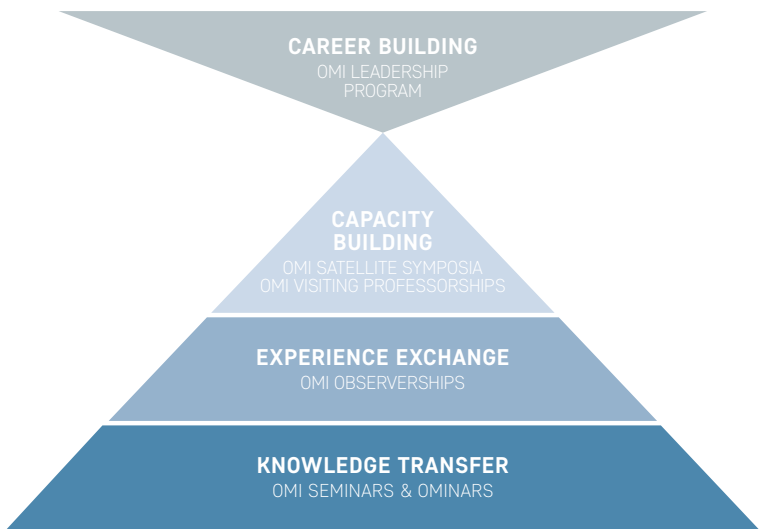
laboration with physicians from Weill Cornell Medicine. Over the past decades, many leading medical institutions in the United States and Europe have joined this initiative by providing highly committed faculty who donate their time and expertise, sharing knowledge and experience with colleagues from around the world. Since 1993, the OMI has awarded more than 24,500 fellowships to physicians from 128 different countries, to whom more than 3,400 observerships in Austrian and American hospitals have been granted.

OMI MISSION STATEMENT

The loss of skilled doctors and healthcare professionals from low-income countries to Western nations is the greatest impediment to medical progress worldwide. Many healthcare facilities in Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and Africa lack qualified staff, equipment, and supplies. Physicians in these countries do not have access to state-of-the-art knowledge, technology, and continuing medical education. As a result, many leave their countries for educational or work opportunities. The longer they stay abroad, the less likely it is that they will return home. To prevent brain drain and initiate lasting brain gain, the Open Medical Institute offers several postgraduate programs that provide doctors with the necessary knowledge and skills to improve healthcare in their home countries. The Open Medical Institute makes it a priority to continue mentoring its alumni over the course of their career.

OMI EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

The Open Medical Institute follows a four-step approach towards medical excellence. The first three steps include knowledge transfer through seminars and webinars in different medical specialties, experience exchange through observerships at Austrian and American medical institutions, and capacity building through local satellite symposia and visiting professorships. The fourth step offers a multidisciplinary leadership program to complement the clinical education and enable OMI alumni to take on leadership positions. All educational opportunities consist of short-term fellowships, which last a minimum of one week and a maximum of three months. Thus, fellows remain integrated in their home institutions, but thanks to the OMI program, gain access to faculty and colleagues from all over the world.



OMI GLOBAL IMPACT

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07



When young physicians participate in an OMI program, they return to their home countries equipped with state-of-the-art medical information, tips and tricks from the most experienced specialists, and a network of colleagues and mentors whom they may consult with for the rest of their careers. This makes them ideally qualified to take on leadership positions in their own countries while simultaneously improving care for their patients. Since 1993, more than 2,300 American and European physicians have donated their time to teach and mentor colleagues from around the world. With more than 24,500 alumni living in 128 countries, our impact is global.



OMI GLOBAL NETWORK

1993–2021

Afghanistan · Albania · Argentina · Armenia · Australia · Austria · Azerbaijan · Bangladesh · Belarus
Belgium · Belize · Benin · Bhutan · Bosnia and Herzegovina · Botswana · Brazil · Bulgaria · Burkina Faso
Cambodia · Cameroon · Canada · Central African Republic · Chile · China · Colombia · Congo (Brazzaville)
Congo (Kinshasa) · Croatia · Cyprus · Czech Republic · Denmark · Egypt · Estonia · Ethiopia · Finland · France
Gabon · Gambia · Georgia · Germany · Ghana · Greece · Hungary · India · Indonesia · Iran · Iraq · Ireland
Israel · Italy · Jamaica · Japan · Jordan · Kazakhstan · Kenya · Kosovo · Kuwait · Kyrgyzstan
Lao PDR · Latvia · Lebanon · Lithuania · Luxembourg · Madagascar · Malawi · Malaysia · Mauritius · Mexico
Moldova · Mongolia · Montenegro · Morocco · Mozambique · Myanmar · Namibia · Nepal · Netherlands
Netherlands Antilles · New Caledonia · New Zealand · Nigeria · North Macedonia · Norway · Pakistan
Palestinian Territory · Papua New Guinea · Peru · Philippines · Poland · Portugal · Qatar · Romania
Russian Federation · Rwanda · Saudi Arabia · Senegal · Serbia · Singapore · Slovakia · Slovenia · South
Africa · South Sudan · Spain · Sri Lanka · Sudan · Suriname · Sweden · Switzerland · Taiwan · Tajikistan
Tanzania · Thailand · Trinidad and Tobago · Tunisia · Turkey · Turkmenistan · Uganda · Ukraine · United Arab
Emirates · United Kingdom · United States of America · Uruguay · Uzbekistan · Venezuela · Vietnam
Yemen · Zambia · Zimbabwe

848

— North & South Americas

1,116

— Western Europe

595

— Africa

16,137

— Central & Eastern Europe

5,191

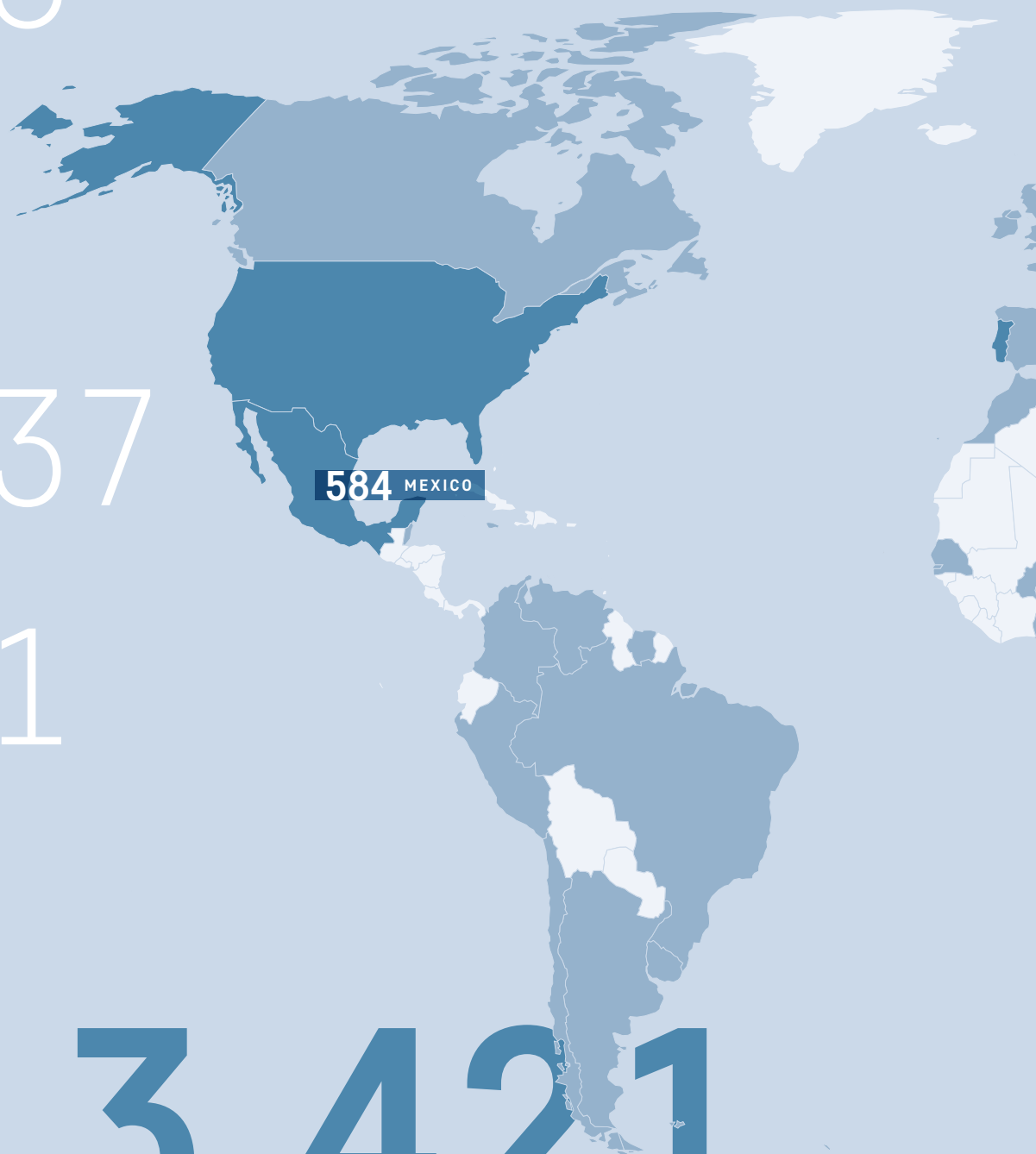
— South Caucasus & Central Asia

441

— Middle East

205

— South East Asia & Oceania

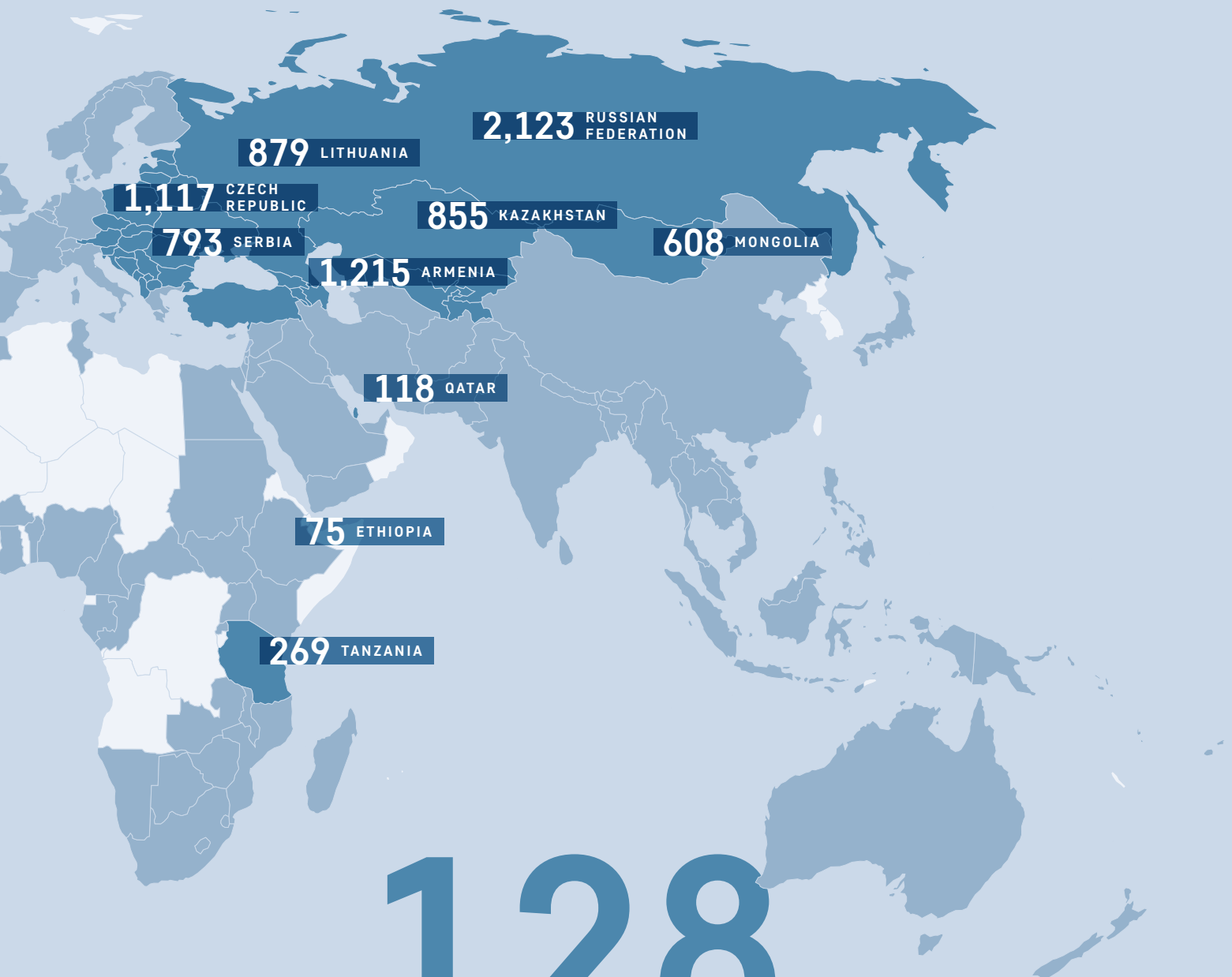


3,421

OBSERVERSHIPS

24,533

FELLOWSHIPS



128

COUNTRIES

OMI FELLOWS
PER COUNTRY

< 100

> 100



Coming from a small village in Slovenia, it is not easy to go abroad in search of knowledge and expertise. It is also not easy to return and stay when foreign countries offer you privileges that your own country cannot provide. The Open Medical Institute offered new knowledge which did not only benefit my patients, but also Slovenian politics, as I assumed a leading position in the Slovenian healthcare system. Due to the initiative's willingness to share knowledge without prejudices, I am a better doctor and human.

TINA BREGANT, MD · SLOVENIA

The Open Medical Institute enabled me to establish a urological department at the Benjamin Mkapa Hospital in Dododma, Tanzania. During an in-country visit, the OMI faculty taught us tips and tricks of laparoscopic surgery. These were the first laparoscopic kidney and adrenal surgeries performed in our hospital, and they will help to kick off our journey in this field. Their input on how to improve patient care and our clinical practice will help us grow.



REMIGIUS RUGAKINGILA, MD · TANZANIA



The Open Medical Institute has played an important role in the development of the Mongolian otolaryngology sector and has laid the foundation for my entire career in this field. During the seminars and observerships, I gained new knowledge and experienced modern technology. With the help of my OMI mentor from Salzburg, we implemented cochlear implant surgery at my local hospital. As of now, we have successfully completed hundreds of surgeries, which has given the gift of hearing to many patients in Mongolia.

BYAMBASUREN LUVSANDAGVA, MD · MONGOLIA

My first participation in an OMI program was eye-opening; it completely changed my way of thinking. I attended further seminars, leadership courses, and observerships in which I was exposed to techniques that have become very useful to me as a cardiac surgeon. Under the supervision of my OMI mentor from Vienna, we launched an aortic aneurysm surgery program in Uzbekistan. Now we can independently perform these operations and continuously expand cardiac surgery services for the Uzbek population.



ABDUSALOM ABDURAKHMANOV, MD · UZBEKISTAN

OMI ACADEMIC PARTNERS

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The Open Medical Institute is an educational program established in close collaboration with physicians from Weill Cornell Medicine. Over the past decades, many other prestigious medical institutions in the United States and Europe have joined the initiative and provide academic leadership for the OMI programs, with all faculty members serving pro bono. The initiative's success is due to the faculty's enthusiasm and dedication to teach and mentor young talented colleagues from around the world. Since 1993, more than 2,300 faculty members sharing the program's philosophy have volunteered over 5,300 weeks of educational service.



SALZBURG WEILL CORNELL SEMINARS

Weill Cornell Medicine

Weill Cornell Medicine and its affiliated hospitals (NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, Hospital for Special Surgery, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center) are ranked among the top clinical and medical research centers in the United States. Not only are the physicians who work at these hospitals experts in their respective fields, they are also philanthropically minded and willing to share their knowledge and expertise. Over the years, the range of seminar topics has expanded continuously based on the needs of the participating fellows and their countries. Currently more than 400 OMI seminars have been conducted under the academic leadership of Weill Cornell Medicine.

Hospital for Special Surgery

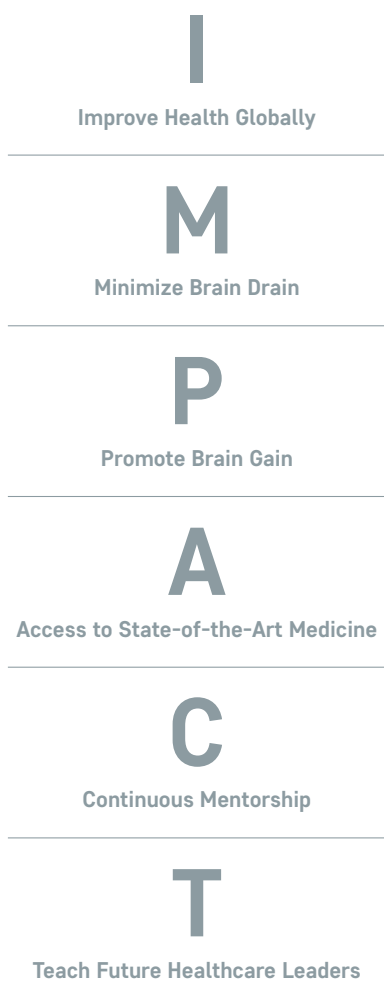
The Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) is the oldest orthopedic hospital in the United States. It is consistently ranked number one in orthopedics by U.S. News and World Report. HSS is the world-leader in joint replacement surgery, pioneering total knee replacement and minimally invasive spinal surgical techniques. The OMI seminar in Bone and Joint Surgery has been held annually since 1994.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) is the leading oncology center in the world. Doctors from MSKCC have an extraordinary depth and breadth of experience in diagnosing and treating all forms of cancer, from the most common to the most rare. Each year, they treat more than 400 different subtypes of cancer. This wealth of experience has been invaluable to colleagues from countries in transition. Since 1997, MSKCC has provided faculty to conduct two annual OMI seminars in Oncology.

“Weill Cornell Medicine is proud to partner
with the Open Medical Institute, an outstanding program
that is having a major impact on medical knowledge
and patient care around the world.”

AUGUSTINE M.K. CHOI, MD
STEPHEN AND SUZANNE WEISS DEAN
WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE



SALZBURG CHOP SEMINARS

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Founded in 1855, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is the oldest pediatric hospital in the United States. Children are the most vulnerable members of society; millions die each year in the developing world due to environment-related causes and lack of adequate medical treatment. In 1995, the AAF included pediatrics in the OMI program and CHOP agreed to provide academic leadership for this seminar series. Each year, CHOP conducts six seminars which cover all the pediatric subspecialties over the course of three years. In addition, CHOP runs five leadership seminars, which are offered to OMI alumni on a three-year basis.

SALZBURG DUKE UNIVERSITY SEMINARS

Duke University Medical Center

In 1995, the AAF approached Duke University Medical Center to cover community healthcare and family practice. Each year, faculty from the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, a front runner in this area, conduct a seminar in Family Medicine.

SALZBURG COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SEMINARS

Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons

In 2001, after the merger of New York Hospital and Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital, the College of Physicians and Surgeons joined the OMI faculty and leads annual seminars in Maternal and Infant Health as well as Internal Medicine.

SALZBURG CLEVELAND CLINIC SEMINARS

Cleveland Clinic

In 2007, Cleveland Clinic, consistently ranked number one in cardiology and heart surgery by U.S. News and World Report, joined the OMI faculty and conducts seminars in Cardiac Surgery and Pathology each year.

SALZBURG INSTITUT PASTEUR SEMINARS

Institut Pasteur

Founded in 1887 and based in Paris, France, the Institut Pasteur is an international research and education center that stands out in many disciplines. It has gained worldwide recognition for its excellent research and is a leading player in tackling global health threats. In 2017, the Institut Pasteur and its international network, consisting of 33 centers around the world, joined forces with the Open Medical Institute to conduct an annual seminar in Global Health.

SALZBURG MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY SEMINARS

Maastricht University

Maastricht University is the most European of universities. It is ranked as one of the best young universities in the world, and already has an outstanding reputation for teaching and conducting research in public health and healthcare. The OMI partners with the Care and Public Health Research Institute (CAPHRI) and the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences (FHML) of Maastricht University, as well as with the Association of Schools in Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) to offer two Public Health related seminars each year.

AUSTRIAN ACADEMIC PARTNERS

Austrian faculty members have played an important role from the start of the program. Not only did they realize the difficulties and the precarious situation in the neighboring Eastern European healthcare systems, but they also had a greater understanding of the mentality and needs of their colleagues and patients, and immediately offered help and advice. Austrian physicians joined forces with their American colleagues to build an international educational program combining European experience with Anglo-Saxon didactics. Since the seminars were located in Salzburg, colleagues from the **General Hospital of Salzburg** took the lead and provided core faculty from the beginning; followed shortly after by the **Medical University of Graz**, the **Medical University of Vienna** and the **Medical University of Innsbruck**. Vienna and Graz also agreed to offer clinical and research observerships for the OMI community.



OMI GLOBAL NETWORK

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The Open Medical Institute has an extensive partnership network and collaborates with institutions and individuals across the globe. The OMI international partners are actively engaged in promoting the OMI programs to local healthcare professionals and providing administrative, financial, and logistical support. The OMI local coordinators, our partners in the fellows' home countries, offer valuable information and assistance to physicians who are interested in the OMI programs. Despite globalization, medical care is local. It is in our common interest to consistently build local capacity and significantly improve the quality of healthcare services worldwide.

OMI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

University Hospital Center “Mother Teresa”	Tirana	Albania
Yerevan State Medical University after Mkhitar Heratsi	Yerevan	Armenia
Azerbaijan Medical University	Baku	Azerbaijan
Baku Education Information Center	Baku	Azerbaijan
Belarusian Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education	Minsk	Belarus
Gomel State Medical University	Gomel	Belarus
Open Society Fund Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Medical University of Plovdiv	Plovdiv	Bulgaria
Clínica Alemana de Santiago	Santiago de Chile	Chile
University of Zagreb, School of Medicine	Zagreb	Croatia
Charles University, Faculty of Medicine	Prague	Czech Republic
Olga Havel Foundation	Prague	Czech Republic
University of Tartu, Faculty of Medicine	Tartu	Estonia
Addis Ababa University College of Health Sciences	Addis Ababa	Ethiopia
Tikur Anbessa Specialized Hospital	Addis Ababa	Ethiopia
Open Society Georgia Foundation	Tbilisi	Georgia
Tbilisi State Medical University	Tbilisi	Georgia
Semmelweis University	Budapest	Hungary
University of Szeged	Szeged	Hungary
Educational Centre “Bilim-Central Asia”	Almaty	Kazakhstan
University Clinical Center of Kosovo	Pristina	Kosovo

I. K. Akhunbaev Kyrgyz State Medical Academy	Bishkek	Kyrgyzstan
Riga East Clinical University Hospital	Riga	Latvia
Riga Stradins University, Faculty of Medicine	Riga	Latvia
Vilnius University, Faculty of Medicine	Vilnius	Lithuania
Alianza Médica para la Salud	Mexico City	Mexico
Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Republic of Moldova	Chisinau	Moldova
Mongolian Public Health Professionals' Association	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia
University of Montenegro, Faculty of Medicine	Podgorica	Montenegro
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Faculty of Medicine	Skopje	North Macedonia
Hamad Medical Corporation	Doha	Qatar
University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila"	Bucharest	Romania
Open Medical Club Charitable Foundation	Saint Petersburg	Russian Federation
Pavlov First Saint Petersburg State Medical University	Saint Petersburg	Russian Federation
University of Belgrade, Faculty of Medicine	Belgrade	Serbia
Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Medicine	Bratislava	Slovakia
National Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases	Bratislava	Slovakia
Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Kosice, Faculty of Medicine	Kosice	Slovakia
Bugando Medical Centre	Bugando	Tanzania
Dnipro State Medical University	Dnipro	Ukraine
Kharkiv National Medical University	Kharkiv	Ukraine
Tashkent Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education	Tashkent	Uzbekistan

OMI LOCAL COORDINATORS

Armenia · Azerbaijan · Belarus · Bosnia and Herzegovina · Bulgaria
Croatia · Czech Republic · Estonia · Ethiopia · Georgia · Kazakhstan
Kosovo · Kyrgyzstan · Latvia · Lithuania · Mexico · Moldova · Mongolia
Montenegro · North Macedonia · Romania · Russian Federation
Serbia · Slovakia · Tajikistan · Tanzania · Ukraine · Uzbekistan

OMI CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

In 2019, the Open Medical Institute and the Open Society Foundations launched a program to reduce brain drain in Hungary, Romania, Serbia, and Slovakia by establishing OMI Centers of Excellence in specific medical specialties at leading centers:

Urology:

Semmelweis University in Budapest, Hungary
University of Szeged in Szeged, Hungary

Pediatric Diabetes:

University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila"
in Bucharest, Romania

Diabetes:

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Medicine in Belgrade, Serbia

General Pediatrics:

National Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases
in Bratislava, Slovakia

At each center, OMI alumni lead the initiative, developing and overseeing strategically important programs and activities. Through investments in essential medical infrastructure and by providing in-country educational opportunities, this program expects to significantly improve local health-care systems and prevent brain drain.

OMI MEX

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OMI MEX is a joint initiative between the Open Medical Institute (OMI) and Alianza Médica para la Salud (AMSA), a non-profit and non-governmental organization based in Mexico City. AMSA's primary goal is to train Mexican doctors and to improve the quality of healthcare in Mexico and Latin America. Since the beginning of this collaboration in 2010, 584 Mexican doctors have participated in the OMI programs in

Salzburg and the OMI faculty has trained more than 2,100 doctors in 44 OMI MEX courses in different locations throughout Mexico. By following the OMI's four-step approach, the initiative has been as effective in Mexico as it is in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa. AMSA partners with Mexican public and private healthcare institutions, charities, and medical universities. It is committed to addressing the most serious Mexican public health issues such as diabetes, hypertension, cancer, obesity, childhood diseases, and maternal health.





“The mission of the Open Medical Institute to improve the human condition by addressing the shortage of trained healthcare professionals is more relevant today than ever before. It does so by offering advanced training and new skills to medical professionals, enabling them to provide better healthcare to people in need. This mission inspired my wife, Almudena, and me to launch Alianza Médica para la Salud in Mexico in 2010, with the goal of improving the quality of healthcare in our native land of Mexico. I am deeply grateful to Wolfgang Aulitzky, the Open Medical Institute, and its academic partners who have welcomed the participation of Mexican and Latin American doctors.”

PABLO LEGORRETA · CEO | ROYALTY PHARMA
HONORARY PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER | ALIANZA MÉDICA PARA LA SALUD

“My experience in Salzburg was simply incredible. I had the opportunity to meet world-class experts, share ideas with colleagues from across the globe, and make friendships that will last a lifetime. The Open Medical Institute gave me the best gift one can give to a young physician: knowledge.”

REBECA HERNANDEZ, MD · MEXICO

2,140

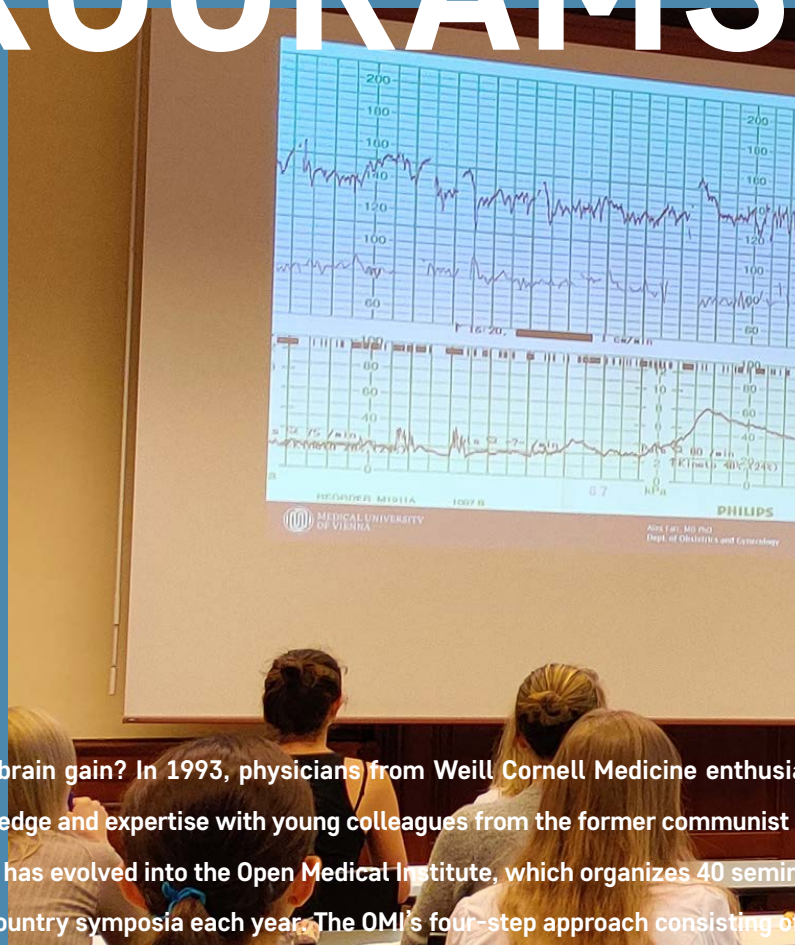
PHYSICIANS TRAINED IN MEXICO

44

OMI MEX ACTIVITIES

OMI PROGRAMS

20
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21



How to promote brain gain? In 1993, physicians from Weill Cornell Medicine enthusiastically agreed to share their knowledge and expertise with young colleagues from the former communist world. What began with one seminar has evolved into the Open Medical Institute, which organizes 40 seminars, 100 observerships and 10 in-country symposia each year. The OMI's four-step approach consisting of knowledge trans-

fer, experience exchange, and capacity building coupled with leadership modules enables participants to build their career and achieve medical excellence. By focusing on clinical education and offering multiple, short-term study opportunities, we have ensured that our fellows can update their skills and implement what they have learned after returning home. Significantly, the overwhelming majority have remained in their country of origin, thereby achieving lasting brain gain.



Knowledge
Transfer

OMI SEMINARS

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23



STEP 1

The OMI seminars are one-week intensive courses in all areas of medicine, which take place at Schloss Arenberg in Salzburg throughout the calendar year. Each medical specialty is divided into three modules, which rotate on an annual basis.

The seminars consist of state-of-the-art lectures, case presentations, workshops, and in many instances, hands-on training. They are offered to highly qualified English-speaking physicians from countries in transition and are by invitation only. First-time applicants must be under the age of 40, have either completed their specialization or are in the final phase, and plan to pursue a professional career in their home countries. Each seminar is limited to a maximum of 36 participants to allow for intense interaction during lectures and discussions. Fellows must contribute academically by presenting an interesting case study. Participants take a test at the beginning and end of each seminar to measure what they have learned. The content of the seminars is accessible through the OMI e-learning platform, which is a free source for OMI alumni.

The seminars are taught by physicians from leading American and European medical institutions. The selection of fellows is competitive and based on merit. Fellowships cover travel expenses, tuition, a set of teaching materials, and full board.

“The OMI seminars offer a transformational experience. After completing the program, our fellows leave with a solid knowledge base, along with the tools necessary to effectively build their skills throughout their careers. For faculty committed to improving healthcare, there is simply no better way to further global advances.”

NIKOLAS BLEVINS, MD · STANFORD UNIVERSITY

24,533

FELLOWSHIPS

128

COUNTRIES



OMI SEMINARS




24
/
25




 Anesthesiology and Intensive Care


 Bone and Joint Surgery

 Cardiology

 Cardiothoracic Surgery


 Dermatology


 Diabetes

 Diagnostic Imaging


 End-of-Life Nursing

 Family Medicine


 General Surgery


 Infectious Diseases


 Internal Medicine


 Lipid Metabolism and Atherosclerosis

 Maternal and Infant Health

 Neurology







 Neurosurgery (Brain)






 Neurosurgery (Spine)

 Obstetrics and Gynecology






















Oncology






-  Breast and Gynecologic Cancers
-  Gastrointestinal Cancers
-  Hematologic Malignancies
-  Soft Tissue, Bone, and Skin Malignancies
-  Thoracic, and Head and Neck Cancers
-  Uro-Oncology

-  Ophthalmology
-  Otolaryngology
-  Otology and Temporal Bone Surgery
-  Palliative Care
-  Pathology

Pediatrics

-  Adolescent Medicine
-  Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics & Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
-  General Pediatrics
-  Neonatology
-  Pediatric Allergy and Immunology
-  Pediatric Anesthesia and Critical Care

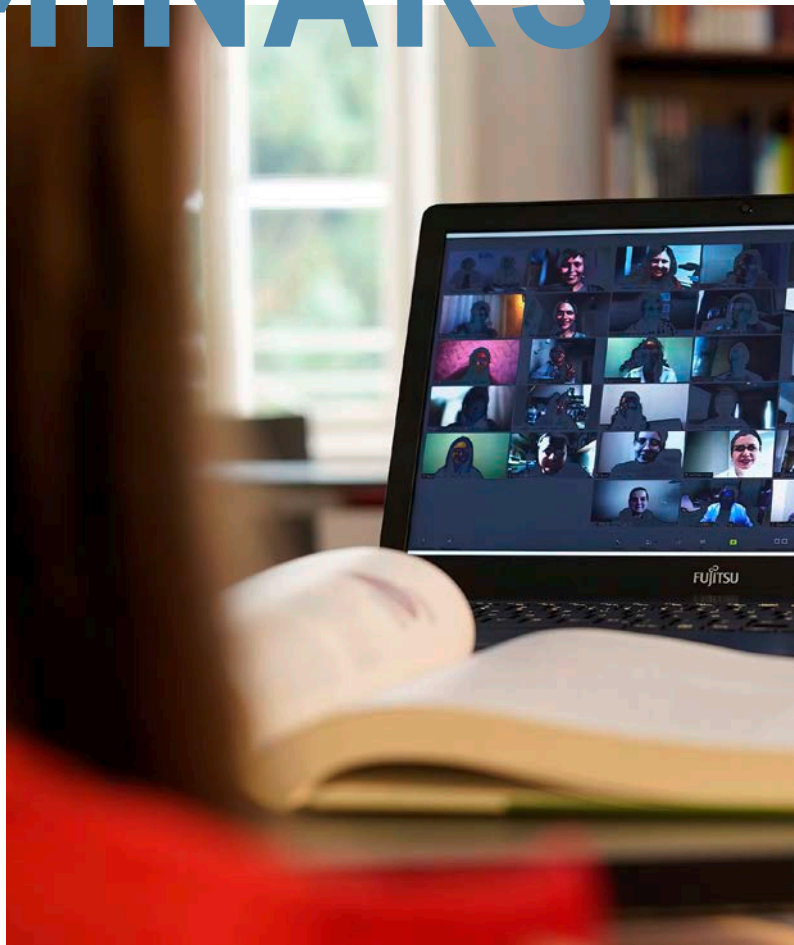
-  Pediatric Cardiology
-  Pediatric Emergency Medicine
-  Pediatric Endocrinology and Nephrology
-  Pediatric Gastroenterology
-  Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
-  Pediatric Infectious Diseases
-  Pediatric Neurology
-  Pediatric Orthopedics and Rheumatology
-  Pediatric Palliative Care
-  Pediatric Pulmonology
-  Pediatric Radiology
-  Pediatric Surgery
-  Pediatric Urology

-  Psychiatry
-  Pulmonology
-  Rehabilitation Medicine
-  Trauma and Emergency Surgery
-  Urology



OMINARS

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In 2020, the Open Medical Institute launched an innovative webinar series called OMInars, designed to temporarily replace in-person seminars which could not be held due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

An OMInar is a three-day, interactive webinar conducted via Zoom. It includes ten state-of-the-art lectures, Q & A sessions, and two grand rounds for fellows' case presentations. Each OMInar is limited to a maximum of 30 to 40 participants, allowing for intense interaction during lectures, discussions, and case presentations.

The selection process is competitive, based on merit, and requires fellows to speak English fluently. Participants must contribute academically by preparing an interesting case presentation. The best cases are presented during the OMInar and subsequently published online. Each OMInar is recorded and accessible via the OMI e-learning platform.

OMInars have proven to be an effective way to interactively disseminate essential medical knowledge to doctors across the globe. They will continue even after in-person seminars resume.

"The OMInar was by far my best online educational experience during the pandemic. World-renowned experts, up-to-date lectures, and valuable exchange."

ALINA IVANIUK, MD · UKRAINE

918

FELLOWSHIPS

"I admire the Open Medical Institute's enthusiasm to continue spreading medical knowledge during this global crisis."

NIKOLA DORDEVIC, MD · SERBIA

65

COUNTRIES

Experience
Exchange

OMI OBSERVER- SHIPS

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/
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STEP 2

Since 1998, qualified OMI seminar alumni may spend up to three months in Austrian and American hospitals to improve their clinical and research skills, learn new techniques and treatment protocols, and experience modern hospital management through the OMI observership program. OMI alumni can apply for either a clinical observership or a research observership.

OMI clinical observerships enable OMI alumni to improve their clinical skills, build personal relationships with Austrian faculty members, and explore opportunities for scientific and educational collaborations. Observerships often result in ongoing clinical exchanges between the respective institutions and further integrate OMI alumni into the international medical community.

OMI research observerships offer an opportunity to OMI alumni who are interested in science and research to spend three months in a leading Austrian research institution. Awardees participate in research projects and acquire essential research skills.

“The OMI seminar and my subsequent observership had a positive influence on my career path as a neurologist.

Not only have I been able to implement the new knowledge and skills in my daily practice at the hospital, but I have also gained the confidence to be a role model for my younger colleagues.”

KATRIN POLD, MD · ESTONIA

3,421

OBSERVERSHIPS

53

COUNTRIES

Capacity
Building

OMI SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

30
/
31



STEP 3

The OMI satellite symposia and visiting professorships are based on the OMI seminar model, but simply a shorter version. They are initiated by OMI fellows and take place in their home countries. These conferences are a great opportunity for OMI alumni to host OMI faculty members, bringing international expertise to their home institutions and reaching a large audience of local physicians and healthcare professionals.

“The impact of the conferences was obvious and immediate. Methods such as the Ponseti clubfoot treatment, guided growth technique, or the Graf method of hip ultrasound have become more frequently used in Russia. The symposia were attended by hundreds of local pediatric orthopedists. I still receive positive feedback from the professional community.”

VLADIMIR KENIS, MD · RUSSIAN FEDERATION

“The Maternal and Infant Health symposium in Mexico has been a wonderful experience. The audience consisted of pediatricians, gynecologists, and nurses from the region surrounding Oaxaca. The event was well-attended and very interactive.”

RICHARD POLIN, MD · COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

268

EVENTS

31

COUNTRIES

OMI LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

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/
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STEP 4

The OMI leadership program is designed to enable OMI alumni to assume leadership roles in the healthcare systems of their countries. The academic leadership for these courses is provided by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the Institut Pasteur, the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region, and Maastricht University.

The program offers training in the following areas:

- Medical Education
- Medical Leadership
- Medical Quality and Patient Safety
- Medical Informatics
- Applied Clinical Research
- Academic Writing and Systematic Reviews
- Leadership in Healthcare
- Public Health and Public Health Law
- Global Health

“Medicine has become a team sport, but in most cases a physician remains the captain of the team. Having the correct skills and tools to be a leader is critically important to a physician’s success. Whether you are building a clinical program, managing an educational effort, or leading a department, clinic, or medical center, this program allows fellows to work with leaders and develop their capabilities to lead.”

JAMES CALLAHAN, MD · CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA

“Solutions to the world’s most complex and urgent global health problems require bold and skillful action. They demand the dedicated efforts of a diverse workforce prepared with the technical expertise and the will to apply it to make the world a happier and healthier place.

The OMI is making a major contribution to this goal by bringing together a vibrant group of professionals who share a passion and commitment to improving the public’s health.”

SUZANNE BABICH, DrPH · INDIANA UNIVERSITY

AAF BILATERAL

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EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

ANDLINGER RESIDENCY EXCHANGE

The Andlinger Residency Exchange enables Austrian medical residents to rotate through a department of their choice at an American hospital, and American medical residents to rotate through a department of their choice at an Austrian hospital. Ideally, Andlinger fellows complete their rotations in an OMI partner institution for two to four weeks. This program supplements the residents' education and broadens their experience through exposure to a foreign healthcare system. The fellowship is funded by the late Gerhard Andlinger, a successful American businessman with Austrian roots and longtime trustee of the American Austrian Foundation.

MAX KADE CLINICAL CLERKSHIPS

The Max Kade Clinical Clerkships are funded by the American Austrian Foundation and the Max Kade Foundation. This program is intended for medical students in their fourth year of study. It offers clinical clerkships, which last between four to eight weeks, for Austrian and American medical students in their requested area of medicine, supplementing the students' education and broadening their experience by exposing them to a foreign culture, country, and healthcare system. Our partners, Weill Cornell Medicine, George Washington University, University of Pennsylvania, the Medical University of Vienna, and the General Hospital of Salzburg have hosted medical students on this exchange program for more than two decades.

HUMES VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

The Humes Visiting Professorships were established to strengthen the relationship between American and Austrian faculty members, who jointly conduct the OMI seminars. This bilateral exchange is awarded annually by a committee of experts. Humes Visiting Professors visit each other's institutions, give lectures on cutting-edge developments in their field, and lead grand rounds with residents and attending physicians. It is hoped that this exchange will lead to future activities between the academic institutions. The program is a bequest by the estate of the late AAF trustee and Cornell Medical University graduate, Jean Humes, MD, in memory of her husband, John Humes, a former U.S. Ambassador to Austria and the first President of the American Austrian Foundation.

OMI E-LEARNING



The Open Medical Institute provides invaluable online educational resources for OMI alumni. All lectures given by OMI faculty during the OMI seminars and OMIinars as well as excellent cases presented by OMI fellows are captured and subsequently published electronically. The OMI e-learning platform is user friendly and accessible on any device. OMI alumni have free, lifelong access to this unique e-learning platform.

OMI HANDBOOK
ONLINE

OMI CASE LIBRARY

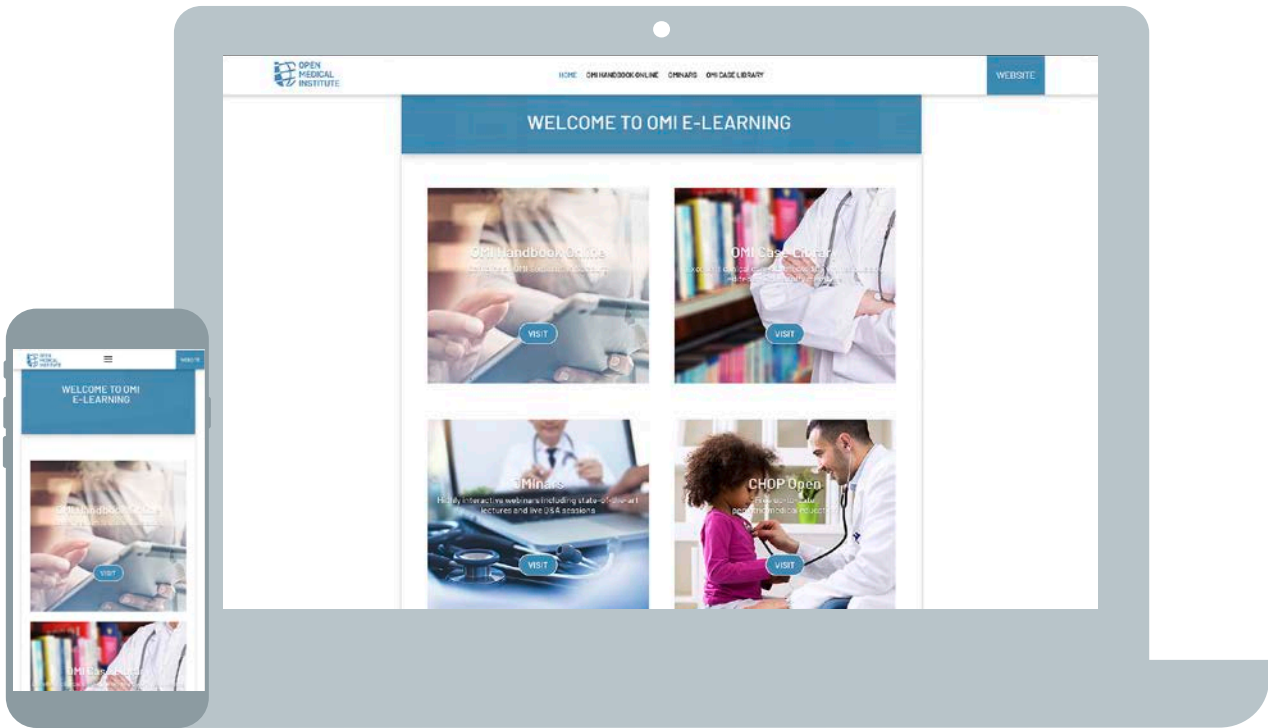
CHOP OPEN

OMINARS

CHOP ONLINE PEDIATRIC EDUCATION NETWORK

CHOP OPEN provides free pediatric education to healthcare professionals from around the world. It includes the lectures of the OMI/CHOP seminars and OMIinars. CHOP OPEN is supported in part by a generous grant from the Leir Foundation.

OMI E-LEARNING



SCHLOSS ARENBERG

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Schloss Arenberg, purchased by the Salzburg Stiftung der American Austrian Foundation in 2001, dates to the 15th century and has a long tradition as a meeting place for intellectuals and artists. Idyllically situated in a beautiful park, yet within walking distance to the city center, Schloss Arenberg is a state-of-the-art conference center exuding old-world charm. It is the ideal place for professionals to meet,

share ideas and establish personal relationships that span the globe.

OMI seminars take place during the academic year from September through July and in the summer months, artists and musicians live at Schloss Arenberg while participating either in the Salzburg Festival or other cultural programs of the American Austrian Foundation.



Every effort is made to ensure that faculty and fellows feel comfortable during their stay and that Schloss Arenberg becomes their "home away from home". Faculty suites are elegantly appointed with period furniture and original artwork. Each suite has a spacious bedroom, living room and kitchenette. Fellows' rooms are equipped with desks, comfortable reading chairs and televisions. Faculty and fellows live together under one roof and meet in both formal and informal settings throughout the week. This unique atmosphere is especially conducive to open discussions, knowledge transfer and networking.

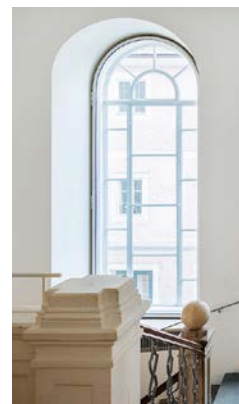
In August, during the Salzburg Festival, members of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra take up residence at Schloss Arenberg and lend their artistic support to opera camps for children from all over the world.

The Grand Hall at Schloss Arenberg seats up to 100 people and is used as a lecture hall during the medical seminars. It is fully air-conditioned and equipped with digital projection, video, and teleconferencing capabilities as well as high-speed internet connectivity. It can easily be transformed into a concert hall, theater, or exhibition space. This room was diligently restored in order to preserve the antique wooden covered ceiling, which includes gold leaf embellishments, Renaissance door frames, and an 18th century tiled stove. The Faculty Lounge, the Porsche Lounge, the Seminar Hall, a formal dining room which can also be used as second lecture hall or breakout room for hands-on training sessions, catering facilities, and a large terrace round out the ensemble. Since 2011, the Leica Gallery shows its exhibits in the staterooms of Schloss Arenberg.

Offices, a multimedia lab, and a computer library, with 24-hour access to laptops and internet, are located on the second floor. The first floor of the building houses the reception desk, lobby, dining hall, kitchen, and gym. The top floor, financed by the Max Kade Foundation, boasts the Armenia Lounge, where fellows and faculty can meet in an informal setting.

MILTON AND ROSLYN WOLF PARK

Thanks to the generosity of the late Ambassador Milton Wolf, Gerhard Andlinger as well as many board members, the foundation was able to purchase additional acreage surrounding Schloss Arenberg, creating a gorgeous campus. An extensive network of paths was installed, including areas for reflection and recreation. Sculptures of the Würth Collection enrich the ensemble.





SCHLOSS ARENBERG
















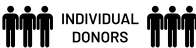
OMI FUNDING

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The programs of the Open Medical Institute are funded by several public and private institutions, corporations, and foundations as well as individuals. Core funding is provided by a direct grant from the Open Society Foundations, which is matched by the Austrian Federal Government. For more than two decades, the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra has supported the Open Medical Institute through Music for Medicine

benefit concerts, which take place in New York City annually. Proceeds from the evening are instrumental for the funding of the on-site seminars in Salzburg. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra's partnership with the AAF and the OMI reflects the joint commitment to humanitarianism, education, peace, and sustainability.

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GOVERNANCE

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The American Austrian Foundation (AAF), Inc. is a U.S. non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1984 to enhance the relationship between the United States and Austria through exchanges in medicine, culture, and the arts. The AAF has grown from a bilateral initiative to a multi-lateral, international institution partnering with non-governmental organizations, governments, and individuals. The organization's budget is drawn from public and private sources. The AAF's board consists of committed individuals from business, law, medicine, and public service.

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The OMI Governing Board oversees the OMI’s management and plans its strategic and future growth. The OMI board members include physicians from the program’s academic partners as well as healthcare experts and donors. The OMI Steering Committee consists of OMI course directors and is responsible for the academic development of the program.

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**SALZBURG STIFTUNG
DER AMERICAN AUSTRIAN
FOUNDATION (AAF)**

The Salzburg Stiftung der American Austrian Foundation (AAF) is the first public, non-profit foundation in Austria. It was founded in 1995 to support the expanding programs and activities of the AAF.

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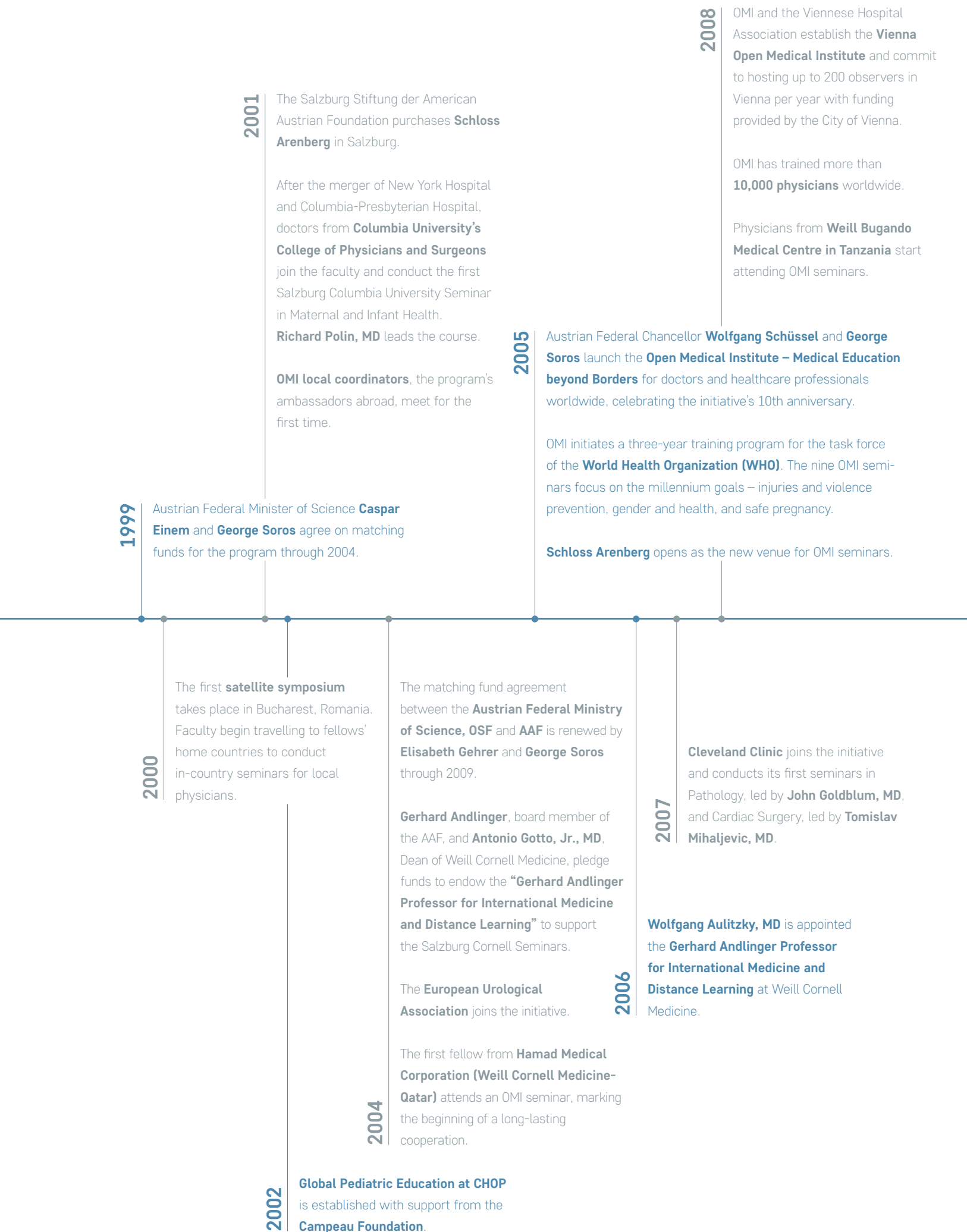
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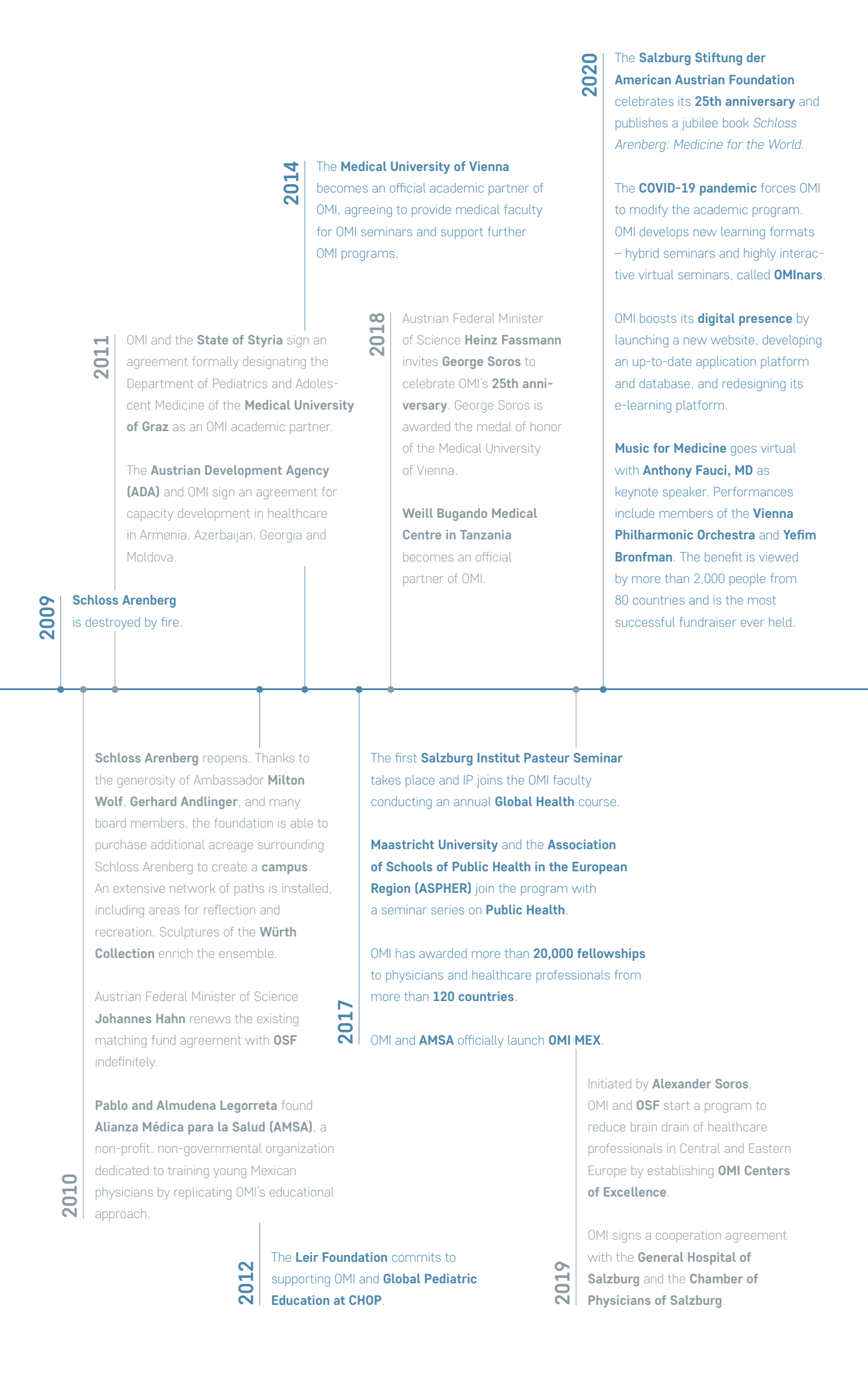
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OMI MILESTONES







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