OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

SEMINAR REPORT

OPHTHALMOLOGY

November 13-19, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the American Austrian Foundation

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SALZBURG WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

November 13-19, 2022

34 fellows from 27 different countries
9 faculty members from the USA and Austria
22 lectures given by faculty
34 interesting case presentations by fellows
12 excellent case presentations by fellows

Group Photo of Faculty and Fellows

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Salzburg Weill Cornell Seminar in Ophthalmology
Sunday, November 13 – Saturday, November 19, 2022

		Sunday 13.11.2022	Monday 14.11.2022	Tuesday 15.11.2022	Wednesday 16.11.2022	Thursday 17.11.2022	Friday 18.11.2022	Saturday 19.11.2022
07:00	08:00		**BREAKFAST**	**BREAKFAST**	**BREAKFAST**	**BREAKFAST**	**BREAKFAST**	**DEPARTURES**
08:00	09:00		**Introductions** **Pre-Seminar Test**	**That Looks Painful! Periocular Trauma Pearls** Gary J. Lelli Jr., MD	**Using New Technology to Teach and Learn Cataract Surgery** Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, MD	**Biomarkers in OCT: AntiVEGF for All Diabetic Complications?** Ulrike Stolba, MD	**Surgical Cases in Retina: Retinal Detachment and Macular Hole** Karolina Motloch, MD, PhD	
09:00	10:00		**AMD and Cataract Surgery: When and How?** Susanne Binder, MD	**Identifying Eyelid Malignancies and Reconstruction Tips** Gary J. Lelli Jr., MD	**Updates in the Management of Herpetic Keratitis** Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, MD	**Submacular Hemorrhage: Guidelines and Treatment Options** Ulrike Stolba, MD	**Indications for Surgery in Glaucoma: Which, When and How** Herbert A. Reitsamer, MD	
10:00	10:30		**COFFEE BREAK**	**COFFEE BREAK**	**COFFEE BREAK**	**COFFEE BREAK**	**COFFEE BREAK**	
10:30	11:30		**Vitrectomy: Current Technique and New Indications** Susanne Binder, MD	**Neuro-Ophthalmic Complications of COVID-19** Marc J. Dinkin, MD	**The Challenge in Macular Surgery** Christiane I. Falkner-Radler, MD	**Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery** Charles A. Cole, MD	**Digitalization and AI in Ophthalmology – What are the Roles of Future Ophthalmologists in Patient Care?** Herbert A. Reitsamer, MD	
11:30	12:30		**News on Cell-Derived Therapies and Retinal Implant** Susanne Binder, MD	**IIH and its Mimickers** Marc J. Dinkin, MD	**Current Treatment in Retinal Detachment** Christiane I. Falkner-Radler, MD	**MIGS Device Update** Charles A. Cole, MD	**Adventures in Cataract and Glaucoma Surgery** Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, MD Charles A. Cole, MD	
12:30	14:00		**LUNCH**	**LUNCH**	**LUNCH**	**LUNCH**	**LUNCH**	
14:00	15:00		**Advances in Ophthalmology in 2022** US Faculty	**Workshop** Fellows' Case Presentations Marc J. Dinkin, MD Gary J. Lelli Jr., MD	**Free Afternoon**	**Workshop** Fellows' Case Presentations Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, MD Charles A. Cole, MD	**Post-Seminar Test** Evaluation & Discussion	
15:00	16:00		**Workshop** How to Present a Case Gary J. Lelli Jr., MD					
16:00	17:00		**Workshop** Case Presentations by Faculty to Fellows Marc J. Dinkin, MD Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, MD					
17:00	18:00		*17:00 - 17:15* **OMI Presentation**					
18:00	19:00	**FACULTY MEETING TO REVIEW THE WEEK**					**FAREWELL RECEPTION**	
19:00	20:00	**WELCOME RECEPTION & DINNER**	**DINNER**	**DINNER**	**DINNER**	**DINNER**	**GRADUATION DINNER** Certificates Awarded	
20:00	21:00					*20:30 - 21:30* **CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT**		

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FACULTY BOOKLET

OPHTHALMOLOGY SEMINAR IN SALZBURG

November 13-19, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the American Austrian Foundation

Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD

Director, Open Medical Institute
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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
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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 NewYork 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.

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Gary J. Lelli Jr., MD is an ophthalmologist who specializes in ophthalmic plastic, reconstructive and orbital surgery. Dr. Lelli grew up in the north-eastern United States, just outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor for his undergraduate studies. He graduated from Mount Sinai School of Medicine and completed his ophthalmology residency at the University of Michigan, where he was chief resident. His sub-specialty training consisted of a two-year American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) fellowship in New York City at Columbia University, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital and New York University. Dr. Lelli's research interests include clinical and anatomic aspects of the eyelids, orbit, and lacrimal system. Current studies are investigating reanimation of facial palsy patients with nanomagnets and collaborative efforts with otorhinolaryngology studying novel surgical treatments for lacrimal disease. Dr. Lelli is currently on the faculty of Weill Cornell Medicine and New York Presbyterian Hospital, where he serves as Vice Chairman, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of Ophthalmic Plastic, Reconstructive and Orbital Surgery. Gary lives in New York with his wife Kelly, their four children (Michael, Grace, Nora, and Emily), and their black Labrador, Ozzy.

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Herbert A. Reitsamer, MD is Chairman at the Department of Ophthalmology and Director of the research program of experimental Ophthalmology, Paracelsus Private Medical University/SALK in Salzburg, Austria. He was trained in engineering as well as in medicine. He is the Associate Professor of Neurophysiology at the Medical University Vienna and Full Professor at the Paracelsus Medical University, where he holds the Lotte Schwarz Chair and is the Director of the research Program for Experimental Ophthalmology and the Fuchs laboratories. He is the acting Vice president for innovation and Digitization at Paracelsus Private Medical University. Dr. Reitsamer is the secretary and a member of the Executive Board of the Austrian Ophthalmological Society. He is a member of the Scientific Board of the University of Applied Sciences in Salzburg, he served 14 years on the ethics committee of Salzburg and is a member of the high council of health care of Austria. After engineering school (informatics and electronics), Dr. Reitsamer attended the technical University of Vienna (electro technical engineering) and continued with medical school at the Medical University of Vienna. During his training with Dr. Kafka-Lützow at the department of comparative neurophysiology in Vienna, Dr. Reitsamer specialized in the field of sensory physiology and retinal neurobiology. His research focused on the role of dopamine in central nervous system signal processing and blood flow as well as impact of genetics on the phenotype of photopigment expression in the photoreceptor mosaic of the retina. Dr. Reitsamer continued his education as a postdoc in Jeffrey Kiel's lab and Stuart McKinnon's lab at the Health Science Center in San Antonio and spent several years in the United States and Canada at different universities for subspecialization (University of Texas, Northwestern University, Dalhousie University, Harvard University). Ever since, his scientific interests have been focused on neurodegenerative diseases of the visual system (glaucoma and retinal diseases). Dr. Reitsamer gives lectures and courses on sensory physiology, general neurophysiology, physiology of higher and integrative functions of the central nervous system as well as ophthalmology. He teaches at the Paracelsus Medical University, University of Applied Sciences, the Vienna Medical University, the University of Salzburg, and regularly gives guest lectures at universities and meetings elsewhere. Dr. Reitsamer serves on numerous scientific committees and advisory boards and is appointed as reviewer and editor in various scientific journals. Clinically, Dr. Reitsamer is specialized in glaucoma and neurodegenerative diseases of the retina. His surgical expertise is broad and includes surgery of the anterior as well as the posterior segment of the eye. He is involved with the development of glaucoma implants, the development of Nano second and Femto second lasers for corneal and intraocular surgery and diagnostic tools based on OCT technology, as well as blood flow diagnostics including the application of neuronal networks and artificial intelligence in screening methods for glaucoma, artificial cornea, etc. His courses of minimally invasive surgery in Ophthalmology are known internationally and more than 800 surgeons from all continents have been trained in Salzburg by Dr. Reitsamer.

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Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, MD is an ophthalmologist who provides comprehensive eye care and specializes in cornea, refractive, and cataract surgery. She graduated from the medical school of Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas in Tampico, Mexico. She received the "Dr. Rodolfo Maya Gonzalez" award, given to the most outstanding student from her class. She then completed a research fellowship at the Retinal Vascular Center at St. Joseph's Hospital in Houston, Texas. After completion of an internal medicine preliminary internship year at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Texas, she pursued her ophthalmology training at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. She was selected to be the chief resident with her main focus in research development amongst her peers. After residency, she completed a one-year fellowship program in cornea, cataract, and refractive surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine Ophthalmology. Dr. Alzaga Fernandez has participated in several book chapters and publications and has been involved in multiple research protocols. She is highly committed to medical student and resident education. Her main clinical interests are corneal and anterior segment diseases in both adult and pediatric populations, ocular surface disorders, dry eye, corneal transplantation, cataract surgery, and laser vision correction. Dr. Alzaga Fernandez is currently on the faculty of Weill Cornell Medicine and New York Hospital as the Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology. She lives in New York City with her husband Andrea and children Luca, Lorenzo, and Lucia.

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Susanne Binder, MD was born in Vienna and did her medical training at the Medical University of Vienna. She received a sub-specialized training in vitreoretinal surgery and research in 1979/80 at the Johns Hopkins University in Maryland and the Duke Eye Center in Durham, both in the USA. She has been a Professor of Ophthalmology since 1988. In 2017, she was appointed Professor of Special Ophthalmology at the Sigmund Freud University in Vienna. Until 2015, she was chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at the Rudolf Foundation Clinic in Vienna, a teaching hospital of the Medical University of Vienna, and was leading the Eye Center Project of the Wiener Krankenanstaltenverbund (KAV) in Vienna until 2017. In addition, she chaired the research institute Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Retinology and Biomicroscopic Lasersurgery between 1997 and 2015. Today, her scientific work is continued at the Karl Landsteiner Institute for Imaging and Retinal Research at the Rudolf Foundation in Vienna and the Sigmund Freud University. She was the vice-chairman of the University Eye-Clinic Vienna until 1990, then she received the chair (Primariat) at Rudolf Foundation Clinic in 1995. Her sub-speciality is vitreo-retinal diseases and microsurgery, research in age related macular degeneration (AMD), retinal regeneration treatments like retinal cell transplantation, and retinal implants and imaging. In optical coherence tomography (OCT), she has developed a new OCT-integrated microscope together with Carl Zeiss Meditec/Oberkochen. After her medical training in Vienna in Ophthalmology, she spent time at Johns Hopkins University and Duke University for further research in retinal diseases and vitreous surgery. Dr. Binder has published more than 380 original peer reviewed articles in both English and German. She was Editor in Chief of the Austrian Ophthalmic Journal, the “Spektrum für Augenheilkunde”. In addition, she was the editor of four books and has written many articles. Dr. Binder is a member of many ophthalmic societies including the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), the Retina Society, the Macula Society, the Club Jules Gonin, the Association of Retina Specialists, and the Austrian and Viennese Ophthalmic Society. She was President of the Austrian Ophthalmic Society between 2004 and 2009, secretary of the Austrian Ophthalmic Society between 2009 and 2011, and a member of the Medical Counsel for the Minister of Health in Austria and the Mayor of Vienna. In 2012, she was appointed as an Adjunct Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York. Dr. Binder has trained many young ophthalmologists and organized surgical training weeks (wet labs) for hands on training as well as several international conferences in Vienna. She has participated in the Open Medicine Institute, the European Society of Ophthalmology, and is a regularly invited lecturer and speaker to national and international meetings.

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Charles A. Cole, MD is a board-certified ophthalmologist who is fellowship trained in glaucoma, cataract, and refractive surgery. Dr. Cole earned his medical degree from Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and did his residency at Mount Sinai/NYU. He completed his glaucoma fellowship at Weill Cornell Medicine, joined the fulltime faculty as an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, and is now on the voluntary faculty. Dr. Cole is also the director of the glaucoma services at the New York Hospital Queens Eye Center where he is also an integral part of the residency training program. Additionally, he is very active with the international community and has traveled to Mongolia, Peru, and Tanzania to teach surgical techniques for cataract and glaucoma surgery.

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Marc J. Dinkin, MD

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Marc J. Dinkin, MD is the director of Neuro-Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medicine and New York Presbyterian Hospital, Associate Professor in Ophthalmology within the departments of Ophthalmology and Neurology, and a Robert and Helen Appel Scholar. Dr. Dinkin specializes in diseases of the visual nervous system and optic nerve and treats patients with vision loss, double vision, and nystagmus. After completing his undergraduate studies at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts, he attended Weill Cornell Medical College and completed his Neurology residency at New York Presbyterian Hospital, where he was chief resident. After returning to Boston, he received his fellowship training in Neuro-Ophthalmology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary/Harvard Medical School with Drs. Joseph Rizzo IIIrd, Simmons Lessell, and Dean Cestari. Dr. Dinkin's research interests include the use of optical coherence tomography (OCT) to detect retrograde transsynaptic degeneration of the retinal ganglion cells after post-geniculate injury and is the co-investigator of a collaborative trial at Weill Cornell to treat medically refractive idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH) with stenting of transverse sinus stenosis. His papers on both subjects have been awarded the J. Lawton Smith award by North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society. He has also recently made several contributions regarding the neuro-ophthalmic complications of COVID-19. He enjoys serving as a peer reviewer for multiple Ophthalmology and Neurology journals. Dr. Dinkin is a passionate teacher, and his efforts have earned him teacher of the year awards from both the Ophthalmology and Neurology departments at Weill Cornell Medicine. He is also the Director of the Weill Cornell Neuro-ophthalmology Fellowship, which he founded eight years ago. In his spare time, he enjoys writing musicals, but his greatest passion is for his family, which includes his wife Julie and three children, Max, Benjamin, and Sophia.

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Christiane I. Falkner-Radler, MD graduated from the University of Vienna Medical School in June 2000. Her areas of research interest are diagnosis and treatment for vitreoretinal disorders, including optical coherence tomography and surgical approaches. In addition, she investigates the treatment of retinal detachments. She has conducted research projects at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Retinology and Biomicroscopic Laser Surgery since 1999 and has started her residency at the Department of Ophthalmology, Rudolf Foundation Clinic; Vienna in August 2003. She passed her board exam for Ophthalmology of the Austrian Medical Society in September 2007. Since October 2008, she is a full time attending at the Department of Ophthalmology, Rudolf Foundation Clinic, Vienna. Dr. Falkner-Radler has already published several articles on vitreoretinal surgery in peer-reviewed journals and is currently conducting prospective studies on posterior vitreous detachment, retinal detachment surgery, macular surgery, and on new advances in combined cataract and vitreoretinal surgery. She has presented free papers and posters at Club Jules Gonin, the Retina Society meeting, at ARVO, AAO and Asia-ARVO meetings as well as at other national and international conferences and courses. She has been a member of the faculty of the International Conference on Vitreoretinal Diseases, Vienna 2002, 2005, and 2009. In addition, she has been accepted as a member in the Retina Society, in the ASRS and in the Club Jules Gonin, and she has completed the SOE-Leadership development program “EuLDP” 2010-2011. She finished several observerships (2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017) with the Department of Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medicine, New York. In December 2011, her appointment to “Associate Professor of Ophthalmology was concordantly approved by the committee of the Medical University Vienna. Joining her scientific ambition is her advanced training in cataract and vitreoretinal surgery. She lives in Vienna with her husband Christof.

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Karolina Motloch, MD, PhD, FEBO is a specialist at the division for medical and surgical retina at the Department of Ophthalmology and Optometry of Paracelsus Medical University in Salzburg, Austria. Dr. Motloch graduated from the Medical University in Gdansk, Poland and spent four semesters of study at the University of Cologne, Germany. She conducted her ophthalmology residency training at the Clinic Frankfurt Hoechst in Frankfurt, Germany with. Dr. Claus Eckardt and at the University Clinic in Salzburg with Dr. Herbert Reitsamer. Her doctoral thesis evaluated the autonomic control of retinal blood flow in rats, showing for the first time that the retinal circulation reacts to the electrical brain stem stimulation at the superior salivatory nucleus. Clinical and translational research efforts of Dr. Motloch focus on vascular determinants of ocular pathophysiology, retinopathy of prematurity, ocular gene therapy, and novel therapeutic options for age related macular degeneration.

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Ulrike Stolba, MD is an ophthalmologist who specialized in vitreoretinal surgery with the focus on severe and complex diabetic complications. She completed her university education in Vienna and had her ophthalmology residency and fellowship at the University Eye Clinic in Vienna. The research interests included mainly the artificial substitute of the vitreous with heavy liquids. In 2004, Dr. Stolba became an Associate Professor in Ophthalmology. In 1997, she moved to the Rudolf Foundation Hospital in Vienna where she manages the outpatient service for diabetic complications. She performs surgery in the complete spectrum of anterior and posterior segment disorders. Since 2021, Dr. Stolba is Retinal Consultant in EMCO Clinic in Salzburg. She lives in Vienna with her partner.

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Fellow Booklet
Ophthalmology

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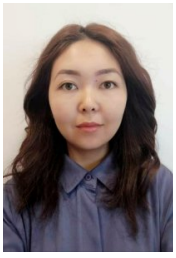

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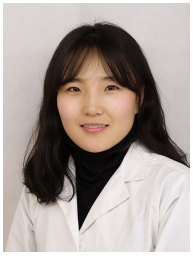

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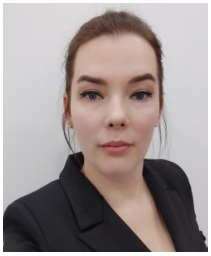

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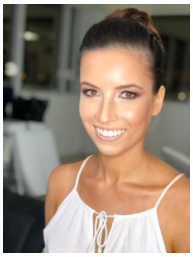

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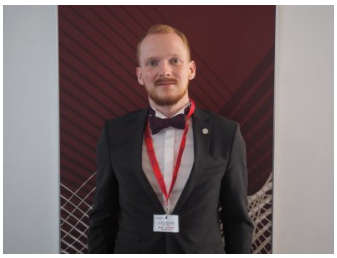

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DIARY

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Sunday, November 13, 2022

My journey started Trencin, where I decided to travel to Salzburg alone by car. I was a bit nervous because it is about 500 km, but I absolutely don't regret this decision because the drive was comfortable and I found Schloss Arenberg without any problem. After filling out some formal paperwork, I received the key to my room, which was nicely furnished, clean, and spacious. Around 7:00 pm, we met faculty members and participants from other countries in the lobby. The welcome reception and speech were very encouraging, and the entire evening had a pleasant atmosphere. During dinner, we met other colleagues from around the world and it was a very nice evening.

Monday, November 14, 2022

At 8:00 am, we started with the pre-seminar test. Afterwards, we heard lectures from Dr. Binder about AMD and cataract surgery, pars plana vitrectomy techniques, RPE transplantation and retinal implant, which was new for me. Dr. Binder showed us her real patients and videos of implantation techniques. This technology brought a real benefit to the patient. Lunch was

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followed by the topic of advances in ophthalmology, given by all faculty members from NYC, which felt futuristic to me! Then, we received some useful tips about how to present a case presentation. During the evening, I enjoyed the beautiful scenery of the town center, which is just a five min walk from Schloss Arenberg. Dinner was once again very tasty and pleasant.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

We started the morning with a lecture presented by Dr. Lelli, who talked about periocular traumas and plastic reconstructions. His lecture was followed by Dr. Dinkin, who spoke about COVID-19 neuro-ophthalmic complications and idiopathic intracranial hypertension. Both lectures were of great importance to me. In the afternoon, many participants presented their case presentations.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

At 8:00 am, the lecture with Dr. Alzaga-Fernandez began. She spoke about new technologies in cataract surgery, which is what I like to do, so it gave me a lot of information. The next lecture was about updates in herpetic keratitis, which is important for every ophthalmologist. Both talks were very interesting and useful for my professional practice. Then, two lectures about pars plana vitrectomy were presented by Dr. Falkner-Radler. We had a free afternoon, and despite rainy weather, I think everyone enjoyed the city, visiting the Mirabell garden, the Hohensalzburg Fortress, or Mozart's birth house.

Thursday, November 17, 2022

The first lecture today was about diabetic retinopathy and prognostic OCT markers, presented by Dr. Stolba from Vienna. I found this topic to be very useful for my career because most of the time I work with patients with diabetic retinopathy. I was very pleased that most of the treatment methods were familiar to me and are used in my country, and I appreciated the fact that these methods are successful abroad. Her lecture was followed by Dr. Cole, who spoke about MIGS. In the afternoon, the rest of the participants presented their case presentations, including me. It was a great experience to be able to share my work and hear feedback from so many international doctors. That is truly an unusual opportunity! The evening ended with a great dinner and a wonderful chamber music concert, which was held right here in Schloss Arenberg just for us!

Friday, November 18, 2022

Today's first talk was about retinal and glaucoma surgical cases and indications. Looking back at the week, I learned so much about new approaches to obtain a precise diagnosis and to give patients a specific treatment. I was honored to share my experience with colleagues from other countries and was very happy to meet new people. I discovered a lot from great faculty members who have many years of experience, all who shared their knowledge with us. I want to express my gratitude to everyone who supported the organization of this seminar. I was given the opportunity to gain new friends, extend my professional network with a diverse and multidisciplinary group, further my career, and enjoy the beautiful city of Salzburg. Thank you, OMI!

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Saturday, November 12, 2022

I arrived at Schloss Arenberg around 5:00 pm. This time of year comes with slightly colder air and early nightfall, so the building looked beautiful at sundown. The reception staff was kind and greeted me with a big smile, I was handed an introduction package that included a brief review of last year's OMI's achievements and the schedule for the week. I was very glad to see a list of the faculty and fellow information, including the countries we all come from, it amazed me how people from all over the world came together for this meeting.

Sunday, November 13, 2022

My Mexican colleague and I walked around Salzburg all day. At 7:00 pm, we gathered in the lobby for a welcome drink and a brief introduction by the OMI's very own Dr. Wolfgang Aultizky and the course director, Dr. Gary Lelli. Dr. Lelli introduced us to the rest of the faculty and then we headed to dinner. The meal was delicious, and we had the opportunity to meet a couple of fellows from other countries. At first it was intimidating to start a conversation, but soon enough I realized that we have more in common than I thought.

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Monday, November 14, 2022

After breakfast, we headed to the grand hall where we did the pre-seminar test and then introduced ourselves, sharing where we're from and a bit about ourselves. It's remarkable how diverse the group is in terms of area of interest, years practicing or studying ophthalmology, as well as family members. The first lecture was by Dr. Susanne Binder on AMD and Cataract surgery, she was concise and clear and we had plenty of time for questions, which I personally appreciated. Then we headed outside for the group photo and had a short coffee break. We continued with two more of Dr. Binder's lectures and then there was a lunch break. The afternoon started with updates in Ophthalmology and the faculty gave brief but inspiring new treatments for known diseases. They taught us how to deliver a good case presentation on theory and with examples. Finally, Stephanie Faschang gave an overview of everything the OMI offers and has achieved thus far all over the globe.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

We started the day with trauma pearls by Dr. Lelli, which included some interesting yet terrible cases of orbital and ocular trauma. He even had a couple of trivia questions with prizes. Afterwards, he lectured on eyelid malignancies, reconstruction after biopsy, and tips on identifying the good from the bad. After the coffee break, we listened to Dr. Dinkin's lectures on COVID-19 related cases and IIH. His lessons are always captivating and inspiring. After lunch, the first set of clinical cases were presented by fellows, some were really impressive.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

We kicked off the day with a beautiful lecture on technology for cataract surgery teaching and learning, virtual reality practicing platforms, and minimum number of procedures for achieving residents' learning curve. We learned about different model eyes for practicing specific surgery steps and online sites that offer clinical guidelines, surgery videos, and resources for continuing medical education. Today's second talk was all about herpes, Dr. Alzaga-Fernandez covered HSV and HZV keratitis from all aspects, epidemiology, medical treatment, surgery, and vaccines. After the coffee break, we attended Dr. Falkner-Radler's talks. The first one was about challenges in macular surgery. She discussed epiretinal membrane, macular holes, as well as staining assisted and intraoperative OCT surgery. We had the rest of the day off and were able to go out and enjoy the city.

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Today's first lecture was given by Dr. Ulrike Stolba about antiVEGF in diabetic retinopathy and therapeutic options in subretinal hemorrhage. They were difficult topics, but she managed to make them understandable and easy to identify, classify, and treat. Next, we had Dr. Charles Cole's talks about Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery and MIGS devices for glaucoma management. His videos and way of explaining things make it so fascinating and fun that time really flew by. After lunch, the second batch of clinical cases were presented by fellows, which were all interesting and challenging. We had a couple of hours to enjoy the city and then the chamber music concert took place in the seminar hall. Two young and talented pianists delivered an amazing set of classical pieces.

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Friday, November 18, 2022

The first two lectures today were given by Dr. Motloch and Dr. Reitsamer, their topics included surgical cases in retinal detachment and macular hole and glaucoma. After the coffee break, Dr. Reitsamer taught us about digitization and artificial intelligence as the future of Ophthalmology. The last talk of the seminar was by Dr. Alzaga-Fernandez and Dr. Cole, they took us on a small but intense journey through cataract and glaucoma surgery. We took our post seminar test and, in the evening, had a beautiful farewell reception and graduation dinner.

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