

2017-2018 SMILE TRAIN SCHOLAR
FINAL REPORT

November 2, 2017

Krishnamurthy Bonanthaya, MD of India

Smile Train 2017 International Scholar Final Report

At the very outset, I would like to Thank the Plastic Surgery Foundation and The Smile Train for selecting me as a recipient of the International Scholar Program for 2017. This is a great honor and I was pleasantly surprised to receive it.

I am also pleased to report that I visited two of the great American institutions as part of this Scholarship. I visited The Department of Plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore , along with the Shock Trauma Center of the University of Maryland from the 13of September to the 22nd of September 2017.I was at the Mayo clinic Rochester from the 25 th to the 29 th of September 2017.Both these place welcomed me and I was able to observe, the Craniofacial teams in action at both the places. This was a great educational experience, allowing me to understand decision making processes as well as witness superb surgical execution. I am particularly grateful to Dr Redett at Johns Hopkins and Dr Nam at the shock trauma center, for not only making me very comfortable but also very generously sharing their knowledge with me.

After this I went to Orlando for the ASPS, The Meeting from the 6th to 10th of October. This was a wonderful educational experience as well as a networking opportunity and I made the most of it. The highlight of the meeting for me was the Workshop on Buccal Myomucosal flap for Cleft palate repair by Dr Mann and his partner as also the stimulating discussion I had with him one to one regarding my learning curve with this technique.

In a nutshell this was a great learning experience for me overall and I once again thank you for this.

Lastly, I would like to add a couple of suggestions as to what would have probably made it a better experience for me. As I expressed it to Dr Harshbarger at the awards presentation, it would have been better if we had more information regarding the units that were in the list so as to make an informed choice. It would also be more convenient if the selection of candidates for this scholarship is done well ahead of time. This would allow us to present abstracts at the meeting and also do the tremendous amount of preparation including obtaining visas and the paper work for the universities being visited easily

I would before I end this report, thank Ms Romina Valadez of the ASPS and Mackinnon Engen of Smile Train for all their wonderful support and for making sure that my visit went off without a glitch

With Best wishes

Krishnamurthy Bonanthaya

November 8, 2017

NTAKIYIRUTA Georges, MD Rwanda

Smile Train 2017 International Scholar Final Report

Sites:

Orlando, Florida: Plastic Surgery The Meeting 2017 October 6 - October 10, 2017

Boston, Massachusetts: Boston Children Hospital, October 11 – October 21, 2017

Ann Arbor, Michigan: Mott Children Hospital at University of Michigan, October 23 – November 3, 2017

As a recipient of the International Scholar Program for 2017, I was invited to attend the ASPS/PSF Annual Meeting, Plastic Surgery The Meeting 2017 in Orlando, FL and I was given the opportunity to do observer ship in two major academic centers in the United States of America. I chose Boston Children Hospital and Mott Children Hospital at the University of Michigan.

My key objectives were to enrich my knowledge in cleft care and to improve my technical and nontechnical skills in the specialty of Cleft surgery. My overall expectation was to have an overview of Comprehensive Cleft Care as it is provided in World Class Centers.

I have achieved my objectives in the following ways:

I have attended Cleft surgery related instructional courses during the Plastic Surgery Meeting and I have attended resident's abstracts presentations on cleft surgery. Attending all these presentations has brought to me a wealth of new knowledge in the field of cleft surgery. I wish to highlight the instructional course titled: Innovation in Cleft Palate reconstruction: How to use Buccal Myomucosa by Dr. Robert Mann. This course was very interesting and innovative. I am very grateful to Dr. Robert Mann for sending me his slides and procedural videos.

During my observer ship time at both BCH and MCH, I had the privilege of shadowing very prominent Cleft surgeons.

I was invited to observe these surgeons not only in their operating rooms but also in their clinics. During the operations, the surgeons were assisted by the residents and I was invited to follow all the steps of the operations. I was also allowed to ask questions whenever necessary and I always was given clear explanations.

In addition to observing the procedures for primary cleft lip/palate repairs (that I am familiar with), I had the opportunity to observe other techniques that I had never seen being performed before. These are the Pharyngeal flaps, the alveolar cleft bone grafting, the submucosal dermal graft, CO2 Laser scar resurfacing.

During the clinics, the residents who had seen the patients presented the case to the attending surgeon, and then I was invited to accompany the surgeon to examine the patient.

At both hospitals, I have observed the multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary cleft clinics where plastic surgeons, oral surgeons, orthodontists, speech therapist, audiologist, ENT surgeons, psychologist, social worker see the patient in the clinic on the same day and they will all meet to discuss and bring together their knowledge and skills in order to find out the most appropriate management plan.

I have noted that many patients need to be followed up for many years after the index operation. Due to postoperative complications or growth-related changes, the cleft patients will develop

some problems that need to be addressed through an interdisciplinary approach. The majority of the diagnoses included the following: speech and dento-facial development problems, obstructive sleep apnea, palatal fistula, maxilla growth problems, nose/lip revision.

Rotating in two plastic surgery centers was very useful. This allowed me to have a much broader exposure of cases and procedures done by different surgeons.

Another point I wish to highlight is that I have appreciated how they teach how to operate cleft lip. I liked this coaching because I am looking forward to training more surgeons in my country.

The experience was well above my expectations. I was given a wider understanding of the management of cleft conditions in major academic centers and I was able to understand how different and how similar

it is in my country. I was impressed by the efficiency with which things get done in the hospitals and I was also impressed by the high level of patient safety procedures both in the operating room (Surgical Safety checklist) and the post- anesthesia care unit.

Due to limited skills, patients with speech problems due to velopharyngeal insufficiency and alveolar clefts were not treated in my country. This experience will impact on my practice back home and I truly look forward to applying the knowledge and skills learnt during my observer ship.

Acknowledgement:

First, I am very grateful to Plastic Surgery Foundation and Smile Train for having provided me with this great opportunity to enrich my knowledge and skills and gain valuable experience in Cleft surgery.

I am very grateful to the chiefs of Plastic Surgery Dr. John Meara (BCH) and Dr. Adeyiza O. Momoh (UMMC) to grant me the authorization to do observer ship in their respective departments.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the great teachers I have shadowed namely:

John B. Mulliken, Bonnie L. Padwa, John Meara, Carolyn Rodgers and Salim Afshar at BCH

Steve J. Kasten, Christian J. Vercler and Steven R. Buchman at MCH. My special thanks go to Prof. John B. Mulliken for educating me in a special way and for giving me a textbook and articles to read.

Lastly, I would like to extend my gratitude to all medical professionals at both hospitals. They were all very helpful and friendly. They all made my observer ship easy in the complex surgical departments.

At Cuba Libre restaurant in Orlando during the scholarship awarding ceremony.

December 8, 2017

Srinjoy Saha, MD if India

Achauer International Scholar Final Report

I'm grateful to PSF for selecting me as an International Scholar in 2017-18. After 8 years of clinical practice, I felt stagnated in my clinical work and had an urge to seek better solutions for our patients' problems. I converted this opportunity into an academic sabbatical of 6 months from my otherwise busy practice back home, and serve as a Research fellow at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston.

It was a great opportunity to learn methods of clinical research at Harvard and MIT, and especially from different Harvard Catalyst (Harvard Clinical and Translational Sciences Center) courses. I learnt from examples - hearing successful doctors and researchers talking about their own personal success stories and how they converted great research into successful treatment strategies and businesses. All these learning provided an excellent template to base my own work on as and when the time comes. There were courses and classes at MIT as well as those by B-BIC (Boston Biomedical Innovation Center) that enriched my understanding about different topics. Boston has a fabulous intellectual climate and energy, and its multi-cultural ethos makes it a great place to live in.

I learnt to perform on my own stem cell culture, passage of stem cells, combining stem cells with scaffolds and was involved in a skin transplant program from one genus of mice to another. I learnt about research methodologies, how to critique a paper and some research techniques from Dr. Dennis Orgill and others in his lab.

Dr. Elof Eriksson was a great mentor who guided me and introduced me to some top plastic surgeons in Boston. He had already retired when I was at Brigham, but yet took time out of his valuable schedule to help me out. He went through some of my ideas on wound healing and provided corrections and guidance for future work. He made a real difference and I'm immensely grateful to him.

I shadowed Dr. Richard Bartlett in his surgeries and clinics. He is a meticulous surgeon who helped me refine many of my surgical techniques. I learnt to perform trans-conjunctival blepharoplasty from him. I also observed Dr. Leonard Miller, who concentrated on minimal surgeries under local anesthesia and injectables – botox and fillers. It was great to see how much we can achieve by doing little surgeries at a time under local anesthesia. Both Dr. Bartlett and Dr. Miller are teachers within the Harvard plastic surgery program.

I was an observer at Shriners' Hospital in Boston where I learnt a lot from Dr. Matthias Donelan, Rob Sherridan and Rox Anderson (dermatologist and inventor) amongst others. Dr. Donelan and his concept of 'scar rehabilitation' (scars are your friends and not your enemies, anyone who excise scars are oxymorons, etc.) were extremely impressive. It turned my conventional learning upside down and made me realize the importance of applying thought to what we do, rather than performing surgeries blindly as we had learnt earlier. I have started performing scar surgery his way after coming back to India with good initial results.

It was a great opportunity to see patients and discuss scientific concepts with Dr. Rox Anderson, Director of Wellman Center for Photomedicine at MGH. He is knowledgeable, innovative and wants to make treatments simpler by combining principles of engineering and medicine. I used to attend meetings of Harvard plastic surgery at Shriners' auditorium and Sweet Room of MGH, as well as see patients together and discuss treatment strategies at Chief residents' clinic at MGH. Dr. Thomas Cochrane was a

great guide and I learnt a lot from his immense experience and wisdom in these clinics. In between, I delivered an hour-long faculty lecture on my evolution in facial surgeries at the Biennial Meeting of International Congress of Maxillofacial Surgeons in Boston in September. I also presented one of the lab's paper in the research and technology abstract session during Plastic Surgery the Meeting at Orlando in October.

I shadowed Dr. Lisa Gould and Dr. Gary Gibbons at the South Shore Wound Care Centre, which is one of the busiest places in New England. I had not seen any successful dedicated wound care center before, and this was an eye opener. I saw the 'skin gun' being applied for 'first in human' trials and learnt later that the initial results are great! Dr. Gould and I would be collaborating in future for trying out some of my own innovative ideas in wound healing, which I believe would be extremely beneficial for our people. I think the best way I can genuinely thank PSF for their kindness and support is through good work - by applying my newly gained knowledge and perform studies and techniques that will make our world a better place to live in.

Dr. Srinjoy Saha

Tutor in Surgical Sciences Program, University of Edinburgh, UK.

Clinical Tutor, Apollo Hospital Educational Research Foundation, India.

Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Apollo Gleneagles Hospital, Kolkata, India.

January 22, 2018

Muhammad Arslan, MD of Pakistan

PEER International Scholar Final Report

I have completed all my rotation of the International scholar program and I would like to let you know that the entire experience of this fellowship was amazing and very helpful in my craniofacial career. I feel honored to be part of this prestigious program and would like to thank the selection committee and chair for giving me this opportunity.

Although the program was very well planned and your updates and communication was very helpful in this regard. I would like to suggest that if ASPS can communicate with the host institution that the International scholar can be scrubbed that would be wonderful. I know that to get hands on one must have USMLE but still if that can happen that will be an add one thing in this fellowship.

As now I have completed my international scholar program and I am back to my home so, I would like to request the release of the remaining amount of the fellowship that has to be paid as soon as possible, that will be an extra favor for me.

Regards,
Dr. Arslan.

January 22, 2018

Kidakorn Kiranantawat, MD of Thailand

PSF International Scholar Final Report

My 3-month experience in the US (August-October 2017) was invaluable. My first month, I was in Miami, FL observing doctor James Stuzin learning face and neck rejuvenation surgery. I found Dr. Stuzin is not only a true expert in this field but also a great teacher and mentor. He taught me thoroughly from very basic knowledges to advance surgical techniques. I also had a chance assisting him doing soft cadaveric dissection, learning important anatomy, various surgical techniques and how to correct complications, which were very informative and helpful to improve my practice. After observing surgery, Dr. Stuzin spent time for case discussion and questions answer. This was very helpful to enhance my learning experience. Furthermore, he also gave me advise for tips and tricks, which are practical for Asian patients. During my stay in Miami, Dr. Stuzin and his staff treated me very nicely. I felt very comfortable like staying in my home country.

My second month, I was with Dr. Rod Rohrich in Dallas, Tx. In Dallas, I learned a lot of cosmetic procedures including rhinoplasty, facelift, blepharoplasty, chin implant, brachioplasty, lipofilling, botulinum toxin and filler injection, etc. Doctor Rohrich was a great and intense teacher and mentor. He made me read a lot. Furthermore, I had a chance to discuss how to conduct valuable researches and get them published, in order to share knowledge with other colleagues worldwide. This is a very important way to contribute and make plastic surgeons stronger. Apart from the field of plastic surgery, he also inspired me to be a great plastic surgeon and taught me to find work-life balance. I learned how to be effective and efficient in work and life. In Dallas, I also had a great chance attending cadaveric workshop, which was a very great opportunity for me. Dr. Rohrich, his fellows, residents and staff also treated me very nicely. I felt very happy from day one to the last day of my visit.

My last month, I went visited Dr. Bahman Guyuron in Cleveland, OH. Over there, I observed his rhinoplasty, facelift and migraine surgeries. I found Dr. Guyuron is a true artist. His work was very precise and meticulous. I learned a lot of tricks and traps in rhinoplasty and other cosmetic procedures. He taught me many important points, which are very helpful in my practice. In October, I also had a chance attending PSTM 2017. It was one of the best plastic surgery meetings I had ever been. The meeting was very well-organized and very informative. I learned a lot of new knowledges in both aesthetic and reconstructive microsurgery fields, which I am interested in. The night for international fellow was very impressive. I met all international fellows from many countries and I found all of them have strong passion in plastic surgery. I believe that friendship between international fellows of PSF/ASPS will become a strong connection among promising plastic surgeons around the globe, which will benefit to our society and our patients worldwide.

After returning to Thailand, I applied knowledges and skills, that I learned from the US, and incorporated to my daily reconstructive surgical practice in Mahidol University. I got significantly better surgical results. For example, my nose reconstruction was much better than before, by combine knowledges in Aesthetic rhinoplasty with my own reconstructive background. My head and neck reconstruction after cancer ablation also got more aesthetically pleasing results, combining principles and techniques of aesthetic facial surgery. Apart from surgical benefit, I also had a chance to share things that I learned from the US to my colleagues, fellows and residents in our program and our society. Hopefully, this will maximize benefit that PSF and ASPS gave me. Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Cullington and PSF international scholar committee offering me this invaluable experience. I promise that I will give it back

by teaching our younger generations and continuously raising standard of care for our patients, our country and our world.

PS. I would also like to thank Romi and Kaori, who were very kind and nice to all fellows and me. I really appreciate their kindness.

Sincerely,
Kidakorn Kiranantawat, M.D., F.R.C.S.T.

March 3, 2018

Ogbe Joehehness Omoruyi, MD of Nigeria

PSF International Scholar Final Report

INTRODUCTION

I was selected for the 2017/18 Plastic Surgery Foundation International Scholarship Program in November 2016. This was a dream-come-true for me because I was certain it would afford me the opportunity to learn a lot of new things. My program was from the October 16, 2017 to March 2, 2018. I was interested in four aspects:

- a. Clinical: Microsurgical reconstruction of complex wounds/defects, Transplant, Breast reconstruction, Aesthetic Surgery.
- b. Teamwork skills.
- c. Networking and bridge-building for future collaborations
- d. Research (if possible).

The aim of this report is to acquaint the PSF/ASPS Secretariat with my experience and lessons learnt during my program.

The scope of my report will cover the following areas:

- a. Surgery - The Meeting
- b. Dell Children's Medical Center/Dell Seton Medical Center (DCMC/DSMC)
- c. Texas Children Hospital (TCH)
- d. Montefiore Medical Center
- e. Visits to some ASPS Members
- f. Other Lessons Learnt
- g. Challenges
- h. Recommendation

PLASTIC SURGERY – THE MEETING

My PSF International Scholarship Program was preceded by The Meeting, 2017 in Orlando (Oct 4-10, 2017). At the event, I received the Certificate of the Award, alongside other international scholars, from the PSF President and the Chair of PSF Subcommittee. I had the privilege of meeting with Dr. James Cullington and Dr. Raymond Hansberger who were going to be my host at the DCMC/DSMC. The conference afforded me the opportunity to listen to and learn from the experiences of the various speakers.

DELL CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER/DELL SETON MEDICAL CENTER (DCMC/DSMC) – AUSTIN, TEXAS

My experience at the DCMC/DSMC was certainly my most memorable. I learnt various aspects of the management of some craniofacial conditions in both adult and children from Dr. Harshberger and his team. He also went the extra mile in organizing a laboratory hands-on practical demonstration of facial fracture fixations in collaboration with the representative of Stryker®, Jordan Smith, who provided the equipment and materials used.

TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (TCH) – HOUSTON, TEXAS

At the TCH, I had the opportunity to see a wide range of general plastic surgery cases under the supervision of Prof Hollier and his team. The experience was worthwhile. During the period, I also visited the Methodist Hospital, Katy, for three weeks, based on some interpersonal arrangement. At the Methodist Hospital, I got to see breast reconstruction with free (DIEP) flaps and pedicled (Latissimus dorsi) flaps with implant reconstruction.

MONTEFIORE MEDICAL CENTER, BRONX, NEW YORK

At the MMC, I had the honor to visit the Moses and the Hutchinson Campuses. Dr. Garfein and his team were quite hospitable. I was able to see a significant number of aesthetic surgeries of different kinds in such a way that my personal expectations were met.

VISITS TO SOME ASPS MEMBERS

During my rotation in Texas, I had the privilege to visit some ASPS members who were fully into private practice such as: Dr. Sam Jejurika in Dallas (courtesy of Dr. Egeland in Austin); Dr. Johnny Franco in Round Rock (courtesy of Dr. Weinfield in Austin); Dr. Ellsworth in Katy (courtesy of Dr. Egeland in Austin); and Dr. Chuma Chike-Obi in Austin. I learnt a lot from each of these amazing ASPS personalities.

OTHER LESSONS LEARNT

My PSF International Scholarship Program also afforded me the opportunity to learn more about teamwork, leadership and mentorship in healthcare service delivery. Furthermore, observing the use of some important gadgets/devices and consumables made me familiar with their use such that, should my institution procure such gadgets/devices or consumables in the near future, it would be technically easier for me to use them ab initio.

CHALLENGES

Some of the few challenges experienced included:

- a. Inability to obtain a badge which provided access to the locker room in some hospitals. That made me to always rely on the goodwill of others in getting into the locker room just to change up and often times inconveniencing them, although they were always willing to assist.
- b. Inability to scrub-in to assist my host surgeon(s)/team even in times when there was obviously a need for an assistant to simply retract a flap or wound edges or even to simply cut sutures. Very often, the scrub technicians had to double as assistants while I watched haplessly.

RECOMMENDATION

I wish would recommend that the ASPS/PSF provides some limited registration for future scholars to enable them scrub-in, at the discretion of their supervising ASPS host plastic surgeons, in order to be able to provide limited assistance as directed or instructed by their host surgeon(s) when the need arises.

CONCLUSIONS

I wish to express my profound gratitude to ASPS/PSF for the honor of being invited to the USA for this program. I must say that it was worth the while for me and I will continue to recommend it to other plastic surgeons.

God bless America!

Ogbe Joehehness Omoruyi,