
Open Medical Institute



2018
Annual Report

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

Augustine M.K. Choi, M.D.
Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean
Weill Cornell Medicine



Congratulations on the 25th Anniversary of the Open Medical Institute

The Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research has been supporting the Open Medical Institute from its very beginning in 1993 – together with Mr. Soros’ Open Society Foundations.

The reason why we decided to provide federal funds to the Open Medical Institute was the aim of this postgraduate medical education program. It was and still is to bridge the knowledge gap between East and West, North and South and to reduce the massive brain drain in these regions.

Today, 25 years later, the Open Medical Institute is a world-class institute of high reputation and impressive impact, supporting capacity building, knowledge transfer and sustainable partnerships with these regions. Its programs link physicians from leading American and Austrian hospitals and their medical schools with physicians from Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and other countries in transition, who would otherwise have no access to such a state of the art education program and might leave their home countries to get it. So the Open Medical Institute has improved and still continues to improve health care in these countries and helps to fight “Brain Drain” and to create “Brain Circulation” instead.

The Salzburg Stiftung of the American Austrian Foundation has done an excellent job so far and I am convinced it will continue to do so in the future. Therefore, I thank the chair persons, presidents and trustees of the American Austrian Foundation and its Salzburg Stiftung for their

personal commitment to our joint initiative and for the excellent cooperation. My special thanks go to the faculty members of the Open Medical Institute for serving pro bono and making this program possible, but also to all the fellows having taken part in the program and continuing to share their knowledge in their home countries.

Finally, I would like to thank Prof. Wolfgang Aulitzky for his enormous personal dedication and commitment to the Open Medical Institute and to express my gratitude to George Soros and his Open Society Foundations for having supported this initiative together with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research for so many years already. I look forward to continuing this excellent cooperation in the future.



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HEINZ FASSMANN

Federal Minister for Education, Science and Research

Executive Summary



2018 marked OMI’s 25th anniversary! The celebration hosted by Minister Heinz Faßmann joined by Vice Dean Michael Stewart (Weill Cornell Medicine) and Dean Markus Müller (Medical University of Vienna) honoring George Soros, who confirmed his permanent support, was a major highlight.

2018 was a very active year, 1,241 physicians and health care professionals participated in the Salzburg Medical Seminars, bringing the total alumni to 21,801. We awarded 110 Observerships to OMI seminar alumni enabling them to spend a month in Austrian hospitals to improve their clinical and managerial skills. Our annual career tracking survey shows clearly that OMI alumni are successful in building careers and taking on leadership positions in their home countries, thus building up local capacity.

In order to reach a larger group of physicians and seminar alumni, OMI organized 22 Satellite Symposia in 14 different countries on four continents. We are grateful for the continued enthusiasm of our volunteer faculty and for the excellent relationships with our academic partners. We have signed new partnership agreements with Maastricht University, whose expertise in

public health is well known throughout Europe, and the Institut Pasteur in Paris, the global leader in Epidemiology and Infectious Disease. Special thanks to our Mexican partner, Alianza Medica para la Salud (AMSA) for establishing close relationships with leading Mexican health care providers and building an educational hub in Mexico City. With more than 400 Mexican fellows, OMI-Mex has alumni from most of the major hospitals in almost all states in Mexico.

We are proud of OMI’s accomplishment over the last 25 years – thanks to our friends, faculty, board members and donors – and look forward to another 25 successful years.



WOLFGANG AULITZKY, M.D.

Medical Director, Open Medical Institute

OMI Mission Statement

I MPROVE
HEALTH GLOBALLY

M INIMIZE
BRAIN DRAIN

P ROMOTE
BRAIN GAIN

A CCESS
TO STATE-OF-THE-ART MEDICINE

C ONTINUOUS
MENTORSHIP

T EACH
FUTURE HEALTH CARE
LEADERS

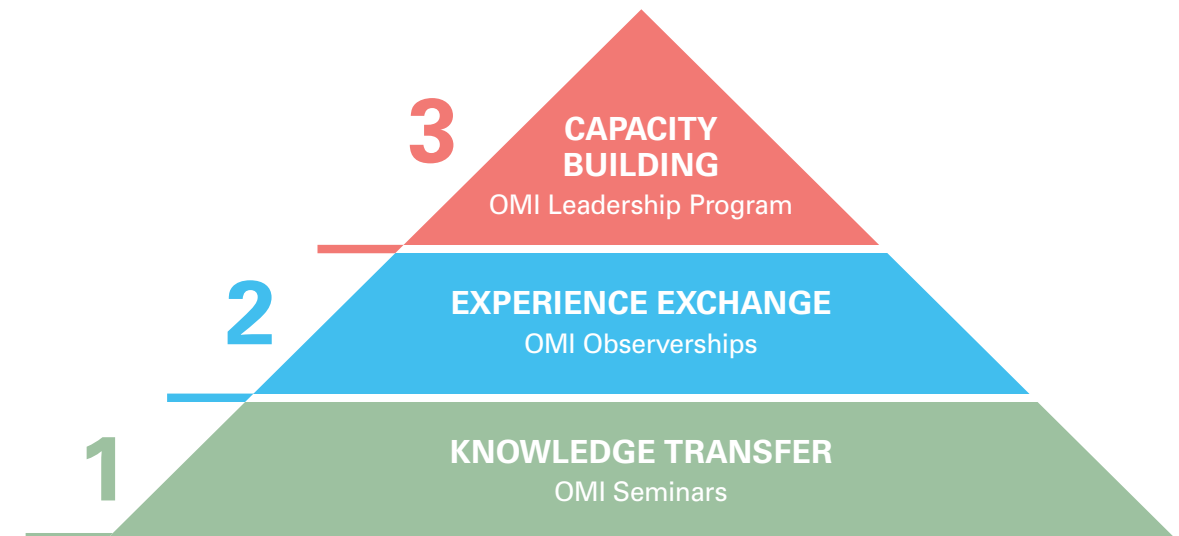
Open Medical Institute – OMI

What we do

The Open Medical Institute (OMI) is a medical educational program which aims to improve health care globally and build local capacity within countries in transition. The OMI was founded in 1993 by the American Austrian Foundation, in close collaboration with physicians from Weill Cornell Medical College and the Open Society Foundation (OSF). In the past 25 years, many

other prestigious medical institutions in the US and Europe have joined this initiative providing academic leadership and expertise. The OMI provides access to state-of-the-art medical knowledge and experience exchange, fostering medical alliances, which enable physicians to improve their daily practice and deliver the best possible care to their patients.

THE IMPACT OF OMI IS ACHIEVED THROUGH THREE STEPS:



OMI Statistics

OMI SALZBURG MEDICAL SEMINARS – Knowledge Transfer		
Salzburg Medical Seminars	2018	1993–2018
Salzburg Weill Cornell Seminars	21	368
Salzburg CHOP Seminars	8	127
Salzburg Duke Seminars	1	20
Salzburg Columbia Seminars	3	38
Salzburg Cleveland Seminars	2	26
OMI Public Health Seminars	4	63
WHO Seminars	0	9
OMI Coordinator Meetings	1	13
Seminars	40	667
Faculty Members	289	4.381
Fellowships	1.241	21.801
Countries	57	121
OMI OBSERVERSHIP PROGRAM – Experience Exchange		
	2018	1998–2018
Observerships	110	3.417
Research Observerships	3	15
Countries	29	41
OMI CAPACITY BUILDING – OMI DISTANCE LEARNING		
	2018	2000–2018
CD-Roms/USB	39	571
Lectures	780	11.420
Satellite Symposia	22	252
Countries	14	30

UKRAINE
1,448
Ukrainian doctors
are OMI Alumni.

TANZANIA
99%
of OMI Alumni
from Tanzania are
still in their
home country.

ARMENIA
1,110
doctors have attended
the OMI Seminars.
This is 13.3% of all
Armenian doctors.

LATVIA
90%
of OMI Alumni from
Latvia are still in their
home country.

MEXICO
421
Mexican physicians
have attended
OMI Seminars since 2010.

ALBANIA
15.77%
of all Albanian doctors
have attended
an OMI Seminar.



**Weill Cornell
Medicine**



**Children's Hospital
of Philadelphia**



**MEDIZINISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT WIEN**



**Maastricht
University**



Institut Pasteur

**HOSPITAL
FOR
SPECIAL
SURGERY**



**HOUSTON
Methodist**
LEADING MEDICINE



**Duke University
Medical Center**



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Medical University of Graz



**Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center**



SA LK

SALZBURGER LANDESKLINIKEN



**World Health
Organization**



kav
wiener
Krankenkassenverband
Unternehmen Gesundheit



CDC
CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION



**MEDIZINISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
INNSBRUCK**



Cleveland Clinic



NewYork-Presbyterian
The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell

OMI MEDICAL SEMINARS

OMI Academic Partners



Faculty and Fellows ESU/ Weill Cornell
Master Class in Urology

OMI Medical Seminars Knowledge Transfer

The first step in OMI's educational program consists of knowledge transfer through the OMI Seminars. The seminars are offered in many different medical specialties.

Highly qualified, mid-career level, English-speaking physicians, who undergo a rigorous undiscriminating selection process, are invited to Salzburg for one-week seminars in their medical specialty. The majority of participants

(fellows) come from countries with poor medical infrastructure in Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Russia, Africa and Mexico. Each seminar is limited to a maximum of 36 participants, allowing for intense interaction and knowledge transfer through lectures, discussions, case presentations, hands-on training, simulations, and grand rounds via videoconferencing. Fellowships are awarded based on merit.



Electrophysiology workshop during the Weill Cornell Seminar in Cardiology

Seminars 2018

- Pediatric Cardiology
- OB/GYN
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dermatology
- Medical Education
- Coordinator Meeting 2018
- Pulmonology
- Diabetes
- Neurology
- Family Medicine
- Hematologic Malignancies
- Psychiatry
- Ophthalmology
- Pediatric Urology
- Medical Quality & Safety
- Infectious Diseases
- Access to Medicines in Europe
- Maternal & Infant Health
- Neurosurgery (Spine)
- Behavioral Pediatrics
- Bone & Joint Surgery
- Anesthesiology
- Cardiology
- ESU/ Weill Cornell Master Class in Urology

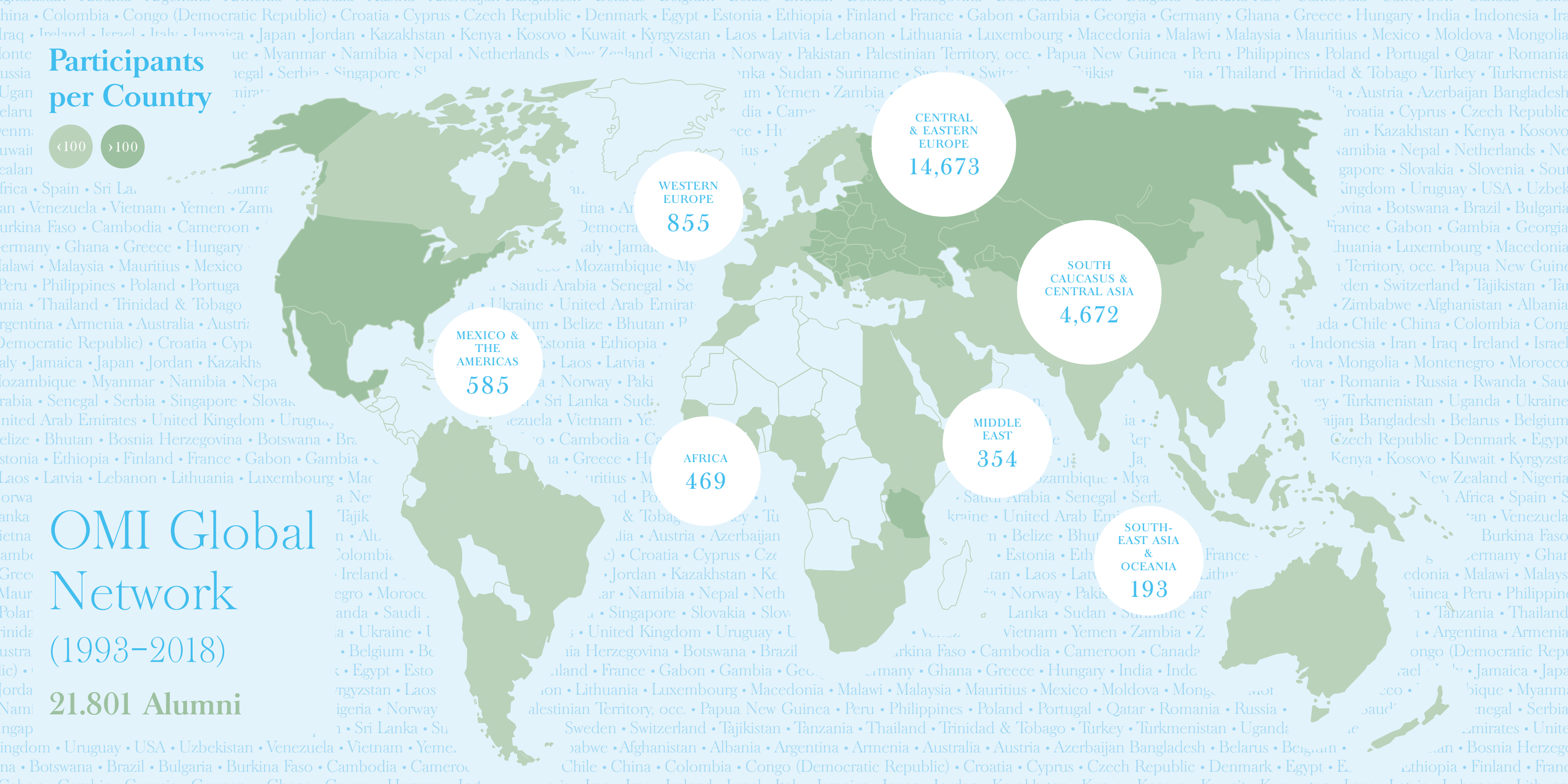


Salzburg Medical Seminar in Infectious Diseases

- Pathology
- Temporal Bone Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- General Pediatrics
- Lipid Metabolism
- Surgery
- Chronic Inflammatory Skin Diseases
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Neonatology
- Otolaryngology
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Cardiac Surgery
- Public Health Law
- Human Rights in Patient Care (HRPC)
- Palliative Care in Neurology
- Soft Tissue, Bone, and Skin Malignancies

“During the Salzburg Weill Cornell Seminar “Ophthalmology”, which was excellent, with its topics as well as with the lecturers, I made great progress as an ophthalmologist, and I can freely say that this was a milestone in my professional life. My knowledge in theory and practice improved thanks to you and among all of these things, exchanging contacts with the colleagues resulted in the improvement of my career. In August 2018, I became the Director of the Clinic for Eye Diseases in the Clinical Center of Montenegro, Podgorica. I hope for a continued and successful education by the OMI that will improve the work of physician globally, who will apply their knowledge and increase the quality of medical care in their countries, like I did in Montenegro.”

Dr. Danijela Đurović-Raonić
Director of the Clinic for Eye Diseases
at the Clinical Center of Montenegro





Observer at Krankenhaus Hietzing, Vienna
© KAV

OMI OBSERVERSHIPS

3,417
CLINICAL
OBSERVER-
SHIPS

358
MENTORS

25
JOINT
PUBLICATIONS

41
COUNTRIES

INDIVIDUAL
MENTORING

37
CLINICAL
PARTNER-
SHIPS

15
RESEARCH
OBSERVER-
SHIPS

OMI Observerships Experience Exchange

CLINICAL OBSERVERSHIPS

The second step in OMI's educational program consists of clinical training in Austrian and US hospitals. All successful seminar participants are eligible for up to three one-month Observerships to improve their clinical skills, learn new techniques, treatment protocols and experience modern hospital and healthcare management. Observers rotate through departments of their interest and are mentored by world renowned experts. At the end of their Observership, fellows must submit a comprehensive report and a case study, prepared in cooperation with their mentor. They are able to establish long term relationships and research collaborations with their Austrian colleagues and their respective institutions.

RESEARCH OBSERVERSHIPS

OMI also offers Research Observerships, which provide basic biomedical and clinical research skill training. OMI Seminar Alumni have the opportunity to spend three months in one of the leading Austrian research institutions, where they can participate in research projects and further develop their research skills. This program is designed to foster professional development of clinicians, interested in science and research, and to build a professional network for future cooperation with research institutions.

OMI Observerships	2018	1998–2018
Clinical Observerships	110	3,417
Research Observerships	3	15
Countries	29	41
Mentors	52	358



OMI Satellite Symposium, Laryngeal Cancer, Kaunas, Lithuania on October 16, 2018. Prof. Herwig Swoboda, Head of Department in Otolaryngology at Krankenhaus Hietzing in Vienna conducted a Satellite Symposium on Laryngeal Cancer organized by OMI Fellow Dr. Kipras Pribuišis in Kaunas, Lithuania. The Symposium was supported by the Open Medical Institute and left a great impression on local faculty members and promoted further joint research activities between Vienna and Kaunas.

I–r: Drs. Kipras Pribuišis, Vyktintas Liutkevičius, Virgilijus Ulozas, Herwig Swoboda, Rūta Pribuišienė, Tomas Balsevičius

Capacity Building

The third step of OMI’s educational program is focusing on building capacity locally. Former fellows organize OMI Satellite Symposia, Visiting Professorships, and participate in OMI Leadership Seminars, and OMI Distance Learning workshops.

OMI Satellite Symposia and Visiting Professorships

OMI Alumni invite OMI Faculty to their institutions for 2–3 days medical symposia. These symposia reach a larger audience of local physicians and foster relationships between senior physicians from the region and OMI Faculty. All registered participants receive an official certificate issued by the participating international academic institutions. Since 2000, 252 satellite symposia and visiting professorships have taken place in 30 different countries.

OMI Satellite Symposia & Visiting Professorships 2018

Armenia	2	Macedonia	1
Azerbaijan	1	Mexico	4
Croatia	1	Moldova	1
Czech Republic	2	Russia	3
Georgia	1	Slovakia	1
Kazakhstan	2	Ukraine	1
Latvia	1		
Lithuania	1	Total	22



Leadership Seminar in Public Health Law
with Maastricht University Faculty



Salzburg Medical Seminar
in Lipid Metabolism

OMI Leadership Program

The OMI Leadership Seminars provide education in the fields of public health and medical leadership, and are designed to complement OMI Alumni’s clinical skills. The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) and Maastricht University provide faculty for these seminars for which we usually receive 5 to 8 times more applicants than we can accept, highlighting the popularity and importance of such seminars.

OMI Leadership Seminars (incl. 2018):

- Applied Clinical Research
- Hospital Quality and Patient Safety
- Law and Health
- Leadership in Healthcare
- Medical Education
- Medical Informatics
- Medical Leadership
- Pandemics
- Public Health Law
- Human Rights in Patient Care

From November 18–23, 2018, the “Public Health Law” seminar took place at Schloss Arenberg, which is an annual seminar funded by The American Austrian Foundation (AAF) and Open Medical Institute (OMI) in collaboration with Maastricht University and the Association of the Schools of Public Health in European Region (ASPHER). The students would like to personally thank The AAF and OMI for making this opportunity possible. A group of students from the Master Program at Maastricht University “Governance and Leadership in European Public Health (GLEPH)” attended a week-long retreat in Salzburg, surrounded by colleagues coming all the way from the Russian Federation, Poland, Czech Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, and even the United States,

students critically evaluated the application of law in different health settings. Discussions about ethics, morality, and capturing data on public health law inspired students to vigorously share their experiences and knowledge, primarily through designing a PBL case which was presented to the attending faculty. “Our Master students represent the future leaders in public health, and the valuable exchange of information taking place at this seminar between students and international colleagues on health law provided a valuable step in the development of their leadership profile.”

Dr. Katarzyna Czabanowska
Associate Professor at the Department of International Health at Maastricht University
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CHOP OPEN-ACCESS MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and the Open Medical Institute have launched an online educational platform, which provides free up-to-date pediatric medical education for health care professionals from around the world. The content is divided into modules; each dedicated

to a specific pediatric subspecialty consisting of lectures and cases presented during the week-long OMI CHOP Seminars in Salzburg.

CHOP OPEN-ACCESS is supported by a generous grant from the Leir Foundation.

www.chop.edu/centers-programs/chop-open-access-medical-education

The students’
enthusiasm in learning
and sharing their expertise
continues to inspire me.

Frances M. Nadel, M.D., MSCE
OMI Faculty Member
Salzburg CHOP Seminar in
Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Wolfgang Aulitzky &
Minister Dr. Heinz Faßmann

OMI 25th Anniversary Celebration

This year, the Open Medical Institute (OMI) celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Austrian Minister of Education, Science and Research, Dr. Heinz Faßmann invited the Open Medical Institute’s faculty members and academic partners to a celebration in the Ministry’s Grand Ceremonial Hall on November 19, 2018. Barbara Weitgruber, Head, Scientific Research and International Relations, Austrian Ministry for Education, Science and Research introduced the keynote speakers, Minister Dr. Heinz Faßmann, George Soros, Dr. Wolfgang Aulitzky, Rector Markus Müller from the Medical University of

Vienna and Vice-Dean Dr. Michael G. Stewart (Weill Cornell Medicine, New York). Rector Müller awarded Mr. Soros the Medical University of Vienna’s highest honor. Minister Heinz Faßmann complimented the OMI for its successful programs and confirmed his Ministry’s ongoing support. George Soros stated that over the past 25 years, OMI has played an important role in improving the health care systems in Central and Eastern Europe and increasingly in Latin America and Africa and thus, successfully reducing brain drain. He also pledged his permanent support.



Dr. Wolfgang Schüssel,
Elisabeth Gehrler & George Soros



Dr. Markus Müller



Dr. Michael Stewart



Minister Dr. Heinz Faßmann
& George Soros

Training and Networking – The Ideal Way to Foster Brain Circulation

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Open Medical Institute and 30 years after the fall of the Iron Curtain it is time to highlight the contribution of the Salzburg Medical Seminars International to reducing brain drain and to supporting brain circulation by capacity building and sustainable knowledge transfer for medical professionals in low income and transition countries.

A recent evaluation of the Salzburg Medical Seminars International emphasized the positive impact of the program on brain circulation as the participation in seminars as well as the internships tailored to the needs of the clinicians and their patients have contributed to career development and helped highly qualified doctors remain in their home countries as they have continued to benefit from their participation in the seminars by being able to use the online OMI Handbook as well as an extensive case library.

The participation in the seminars has also helped to establish international professional partnerships documented by numerous scientific publications. Alumni themselves rated both content and importance of the seminars overwhelmingly positive. 96% of the alumni agreed on a positive impact on the quality of the treatment of patients.

The success of this program is only made possible by a high degree of enthusiasm and commitment of everyone involved: the chair persons, presidents and trustees of the American Austrian Foundation and its Salzburg Stiftung, the faculty members of the Open Medical Institute who are all serving pro bono, Wolfgang Aulitzky, the Medical Director of the Open Medical Institute and the driving force behind the program, but especially also all the fellows having taken part in the program and continuing to share their knowledge in their home countries. May this positive impact and the success of the program continue!



MAG. BARBARA WEITGRUBER, MA
Department Head of Scientific Research and International Relations at the Austrian Ministry for Education, Science and Research | © just-smile-pics



Weill Cornell Medicine

Vienna City of Science Symposium in New York

On Friday, November 16, 2018, AAF and the Vienna Science and Technology Fund led by Dr. Michael Stampfer organized the fourth Vienna City of Science Symposium as part of the Dean’s lecture series at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York. Drs. Augustine Choi, Hugh Hemmings and Georg Stingl hosted this year’s event, which focused on “Molecular Medicine from Immunodeficiency to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)”.

Dr. Augustine Choi (Dean, Weill Cornell Medicine) presented interesting insights on “COPD: Old and New Pathways”; followed by Dr. Kaan Boztug, (Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases); Dr. Fernando Martinez (Chief Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York) and Dr. Thomas Wekerle (Professor of Transplantation Immunology, Medical University of Vienna).



OMI-MEX Pediatrics Seminar



Alianza Médica para la Salud (AMSA)

AMSA is a non-profit and non-governmental organization, supported by financial resources from the private sector, and is OMI's main partner in Latin America. Its primary goal is to train Mexican doctors and build capacity for the Mexican healthcare system. Since the beginning of the partnership in 2010, the education model has been very successful. As of December 2018, 409 Mexican doctors have participated in the OMI Seminars in Salzburg and became members of the Open Medical Club. In addition, AMSA has organized 31 OMI-Mex Seminars in different locations in Mexico and 1.537 physicians have participated since 2011.

AMSA has built strong partnerships with leading Mexican health care institutions such as the National Health Institute and High Specialty Hospitals, Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), Mexican Petroleum Hospitals (PEMEX), ABC Medical Center, and Tec de Monterrey, which are very supportive of our joint activities.

www.amsa.mx

Mexican physicians trained	2010–2018
In Salzburg	409
In Mexico	1.537
Medical Observerships	27
Total	1.973



Dr. Yahiel Osorio Alamillo
Maternal and Infant Health Seminar 2018



Dr. Beatriz Juarez Mora
Diabetes Seminar 2018

"This has been an incredible experience, the faculty was outstanding and Salzburg is breathtaking. I hope that these kind of seminars continue taking place in order to share the experience with more doctors of my country and allow less developed countries to improve their health services or their socioeconomic level. I am really thankful for AMSA and the American Austrian Foundation for this unforgettable and enriching experience."

"The great richness of this seminar relies on the close relationship that you build with the faculty, inside and outside of the classroom. I was able to share with them clinical cases of difficult approach and receive their opinions. We were able to talk about the professional work, the particularities of diabetes and share life experiences. The teachers were brilliant and modest. Honestly, this is the best seminar I have ever attended."

AMSA KEY PARTNERS IN MEXICO





Group Photo with Drs. Alphonse Chandika (4th from l-r) and Othmar Zechner (5th from l-r) at Benjamin Mkapa Hospital in Dodoma, Tanzania

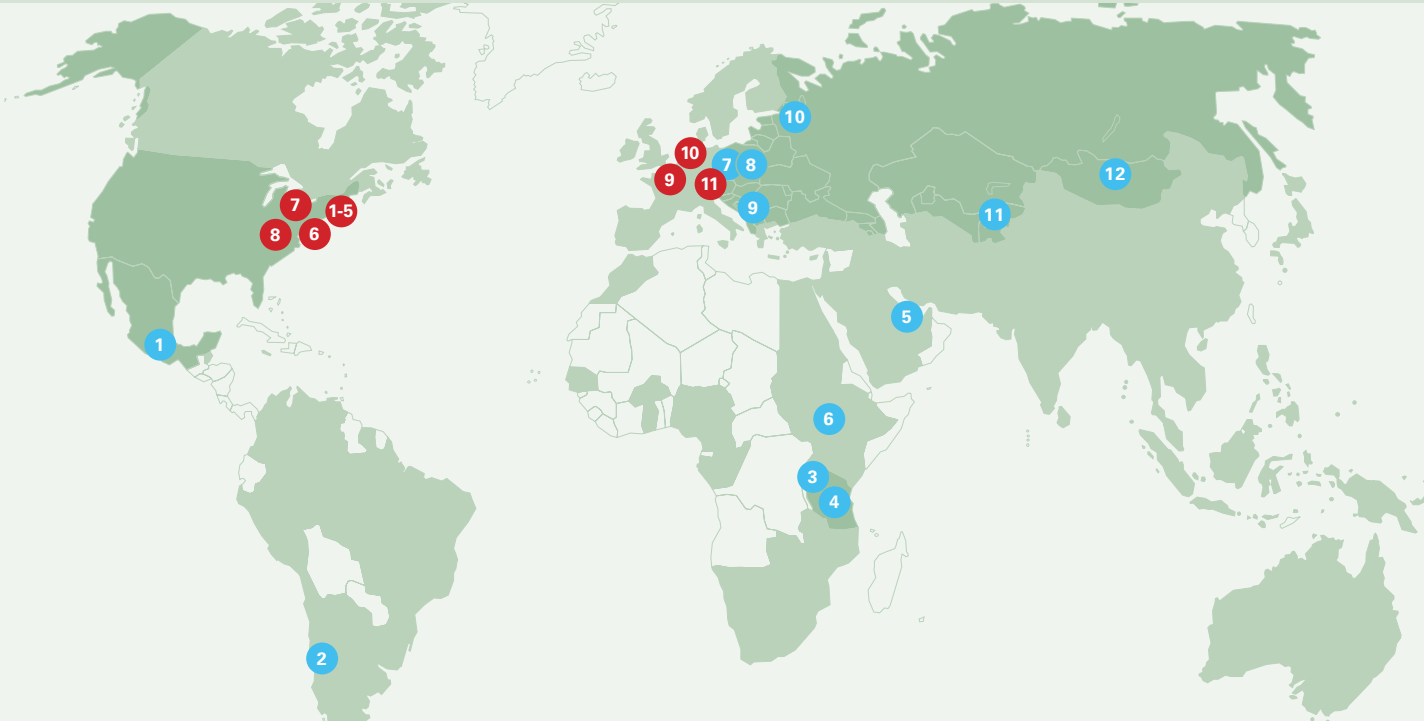
OMI International Partnerships

Bugando Medical Center, Mwanza, Tanzania

In June 2018, Bugando Medical Center in Tanzania and the OMI signed a Memorandum of Understanding to further foster the ongoing successful relationship between both institutions. The parties agreed to promote the OMI programs, including the active participation of physicians from Bugando Medical Center at the Salzburg Medical Seminars, the organization of Observerships in Austria and the promotion of an annual OMI Satellite Symposium in Tanzania with faculty from the USA and Europe.

Benjamin Mkapa Hospital, Dodoma, Tanzania

On October 24, 2018, Prof. Othmar Zechner, former head of the Department of Urology at one of the leading hospitals in Vienna, visited and trained doctors of the Benjamin Mkapa Hospital in Dodoma, Tanzania. The hospital is part of the University of Dodoma (UDOM), and has recently acquired the latest diagnostic and curative equipment as well as a wet laboratory. However, the lack of trained hospital staff to operate the new equipment is an issue.



OMI ACADEMIC PARTNERS

- 1 Weill Cornell Medicine, New York City, USA
- 2 NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, USA
- 3 Hospital for Special Surgery, New York City, USA
- 4 Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City, USA
- 5 Columbia University, New York City, USA
- 6 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, USA
- 7 Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, USA
- 8 Duke University Medical Center, Durham, USA
- 9 Institut Pasteur, Paris, France
- 10 Maastricht University, Maastricht, Netherlands
- 11 Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

OMI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- 1 Alianza Médica para la Salud (AMSA), Mexico City, Mexico
- 2 Clinica Alemana, Santiago de Chile, Chile
- 3 Bugando Medical Center, Mwanza, Tanzania
- 4 Benjamin Mkapa Hospital, Dodoma, Tanzania
- 5 Hamad Medical Corporation, Doha, Qatar
- 6 Bushulo Health Center, Awassa, Ethiopia
- 7 Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- 8 Olga Havel Foundation, Prague, Czech Republic
- 9 Medical University Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- 10 First Pavlov State Medical University, St. Petersburg, Russia
- 11 Open Medical Club, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 12 Open Medical Club, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



Martin Kubik, Alexander Steinberger,
Jan Ryska and Martin Lemberg

Music for Medicine 2018

On December 10, 2018, this years' Music for Medicine Benefit took place at Carnegie Hall and celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Open Medical Institute. A quartet of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (Martin Kubik, violin; Alexander Steinberger, violin; Martin Lemberg, viola and Jan Ryska, cello) performed works by Dvorak and Mozart and topped it off with four renditions of Happy Birthday as "composed" by Dvorak, Mozart, Strauss and Brahms. The concert and dinner were sold out and the evening raised a record \$624,000 (per December 17, 2018). A huge thank you to the musicians, board and faculty members for their support.

- 1. Daisy Soros & Wolfgang Aulitzky
- 2. Margaret Crotty, Gregory & Ali Landegger, Molly Howe
- 3. Dr. Mary and Dean Augustine Choi
- 4. Barbara & Donald Tober
- 5. Natan & Jessica Bibliowicz
- 6. Dr. Richard & Helen Polin, Dr. Stephen & Zella Ludwig
- 7. Almudena Legorreta
- 8. AAF Chairman Thomas McGrath and guests
- 9. Katharina Lewis, Karl Heinz Faber, Gerhard & Angelika Seebacher
- 10. Frank Holzer hosts a Leica Table
- 11. Barbara Albert
- 12. Wolfgang Aulitzky & Donna Eacho
- 13. Eleanor & Dr. Thomas Fahey, Sir Murray Brennan
- 14. Beatrix & Gregor Medinger
- 15. Dr. Bernard & Deborah Rawlins
- 16. Marife Hernandez & Amb. Lee Brown





Dr. Michael Häupl, Former Mayor of the City of Vienna



OMI prize winners: Drs. Ernst Wolner, Ilse Krebs, Gerhard Maurer with Wolfgang Aulitzky



Dr. Walter Klimscha and Rector Markus Müller



l-r: Dr. Hugh C. Hemmings Jr., Dr. Peter N. Schlegel, Dr. James D. Callahan, Consul General Helmut Böck, Dr. Russell E. Windsor, Dr. Wolfgang Aulitzky and Dr. Michael G. Stewart



Consul General Helmut Böck with Dr. Zev Rosenwaks

Vienna School of Medicine Gala 2018

On Monday, October 15, 2018, the Vienna Open Medical Institute and the Josephinum Museum hosted the third Vienna School of Medicine Gala, highlighting medical achievements in Cardiac Surgery and Rheumatology. The benefit raised €84,000 for further research and medical education to support medical innovation. The former mayor of Vienna, Dr. Michael Häupl, awarded this year’s OMI Mentoring prize to Drs. Ernst Wolner, Ilse Krebs, and Gerhard Maurer.

“I have no doubt that my observership was highly beneficial for me, and I am sure that my newly acquired knowledge will contribute to the way that urology is practiced in Armenia.”

Garnik Shahbazyan, Armenia
OMI Observer at the General Hospital in Vienna (AKH)

Awards

AUSTRIAN CROSS OF MERIT

On October 3, 2018, Austrian Consul General Helmut Böck awarded the Austrian Cross of Merit, a prestigious award, to six OMI Seminar Course Directors for their scientific excellence and service to the Open Medical Institute.

The awardees are:

Dr. Hugh C. Hemmings Jr., Dr. Russell E. Windsor, Dr. Zev Rosenwaks, Dr. James D. Callahan, Dr. Peter N. Schlegel and Dr. Michael G. Stewart

HUMES VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

The Humes Visiting Professorship is a bilateral program, awarded to course directors of the OMI Seminars. Each professor visits his/her colleague’s institution and gives a series of lectures on cutting edge developments in their field. After being awarded the Humes Visiting Professorship in 2017, Dr. Roger Haertl and Dr. Claudius Thomé successfully delivered their lectures in 2018 at the University of Innsbruck and at the Weill Cornell Brain and Spine Center in New York, respectively.

Success Stories



Dr. Arsen Torosyan
Minister of Health in Armenia (OMI Alumnus)

“Armenia can truly be called a country in transition, where challenges in healthcare should be addressed on all levels. Thus I have a tough task now, which I have accepted for the future of my country. The OMI Seminars and Observerships are unique in the way they are organized and carried out. It surely leaves a great impact on professional development, networking, and most important – for widening the vision as a leader in healthcare. I am glad I had that experience. I wish more fellows in the future and further advancement of the program!”



Dr. Elena Zhuiko
Lecturer at Belarusian State Medical University (OMI Alumna)

“I’ve always had the wish to help people, that’s why I decided to become a doctor. I graduated from Medical school, and started working in an outpatient clinic in Minsk, before pursuing a PhD in Cardiology. I then started working as a physician at the Republican Scientific and Practical Center of Cardiology where I acquired invaluable experience in managing patients with complicated health issues. To sum up, I have a quite successful career, thanks to the knowledge acquired at Salzburg Medical Seminars, which I was privileged to attend several times. Thank you for this opportunity!”



Dr. Dana Kigitovica
Resident, Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, Riga, Latvia (OMI Alumna and Observer)

“I was honoured to participate in the OMI Observership in Cardiology under the auspices of Prim. Dr. Andrea Podczeck-Schweighofer. It was my goal to experience the work atmosphere in an Austrian hospital, and this observership exceeded my expectations. I appreciated the possibility to work, to watch and to learn how patients are managed, examined and observed. The work in the department was intense, but I balanced it out with social activities organized by the OMI. I benefited a lot from working in Vienna, and I will use the gained knowledge in my hometown Riga. It was a fantastic month!”



Dr. Elvir Zvrko
Chairman of Otorhinolaryngology at the University Clinical Center of Montenegro (OMI Alumnus and OMI Local Coordinator)

“After my first participation in a Salzburg Medical Seminar in 2005, I experienced a strong boost in my career. Up-to-date lectures, excellent faculty, interesting discussions, participants from different countries, and the unique Schloss Arenberg are the core of the Open Medical Institute. In 2008, I was promoted to Chairman of the Clinic of Otorhinolaryngology at the University Clinical Center of Montenegro. Again, AAF was there to support me by inviting me to a Health Leadership Seminar, where we were encouraged to take on leading roles at our institutions. It is a great privilege to be a member of the AAF family.”



OMI Governing Board

The Open Medical Institute (OMI) is a program of the American Austrian Foundation (AAF). Due to the complex nature of OMI with its multiple academic and funding partners, it was necessary to create the OMI Governing Board, which oversees the management and future growth of the OMI.

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Home of the OMI Seminars in Salzburg, Austria

OMI Financial Report

Income and Expenses 2018

OMI SEMINARS	
Income	
Donations & Grants	\$ 1,793.887
Public Subsidies	\$ 1,189.890
Other Income	\$ 96.339
Total OMI Seminar Income	\$ 3,080.116
Expenses	
Overhead & Staff	\$ 269.054
Seminar Expenses (Faculty & Fellows)	\$ 2,671.640
Administrative Expenditure	\$ 294.602
Total OMI Seminar Expenses	\$ 3,235.296

OMI OBSERVERSHIPS	
Income	
Donations & Grants	\$ 234.402
Public Subsidies	\$ 300.954
Total OMI Observership Income	\$ 535.356
Expenses	
Overhead & Staff	\$ 159.062
Observership and Travel Expenses	\$ 195.736
Administrative Expenditure	\$ 128.877
Total OMI Seminar Expenses	\$ 483.675

This financial report represents income and expenses per December 31, 2018 (exchange rate: 1 EUR = 1.17 USD per June 30, 2018). The funding gap of \$103,000 was covered by reserve funds of the Salzburg Stiftung of the AAF. The OMI Seminars and Observerships are organized by the American Austrian Foundation (AAF) in cooperation with the Salzburg Stiftung of the AAF and the Association of Friends of the AAF. This financial report does not include the value of faculty time and other in-kind donations.

The American Austrian Foundation

The American Austrian Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1984 to enhance the relationship between the United States and Austria through exchanges in medicine, media and the arts. The AAF has grown from a bilateral initiative to a multilateral, international institution partnering with non-governmental organizations, governments and individuals, directed by committed board members. From modest beginnings, the AAF's annual budget now exceeds \$ 4 million and is drawn from public and private sources. The Salzburg Stiftung of the AAF and the Association of Friends of the AAF were founded to assist the AAF with the implementation of its programs in Austria and Europe.

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The "Salzburg Stiftung der American Austrian Foundation" is an Austrian non-profit organization established in 1995 to facilitate the organization of AAF's scientific programs in Austria.

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We are proud and thankful for the collaborations with leading academic institutions in Austria and in the United States to further the Open Medical Institute’s mission of medical education beyond borders.



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The American Austrian Foundation (AAF) and the Open Medical Institute (OMI) are profoundly grateful to the leading sponsors and the many others who support our work.



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