

BROWN GLOBAL NEUROSURGERY FORUM (BGNF) 2025

In a pivotal scene in the Dead Poets Society (and a scene that deeply resonated with me), Mr. Keating, a charismatic but unconventional English teacher, jumped onto his desk and asked, “Why do I stand up here?” After dismissing a frivolous reply, he declared, “I stand upon my desk to remind myself that we must constantly look at things in a different way.” He then looked around the room and explained that the room looked different from this new vantage. By standing on the desk, Mr. Keating demonstrated that even small actions can profoundly change how we perceive the world. He then asked his students to see for themselves.

Through the Brown Global Neurosurgery Health Forum hosted by our department this week, we, too, were offered an opportunity to look at things in a different way -- through the vantage points of our visitors and their pursuits. While admittedly a small stone cast into the whirlpool of recent global events, the event brought together prominent surgeons with academic lineage that spanned the Pacific. Standing on our metaphoric desks, we exchanged perspectives that were simultaneously foreign and familiar. We reimagined oncologic, pediatric, functional, vascular, and spine neurosurgery through diverse voices unified by a common purpose.

In the process, we shared a little of ourselves and treasured the offerings of our guests -- each conversation and shared moment transforming strangers into kindred spirits. Distance dissolved into connections as we laid the foundation for lifelong friendship. We wove our strengths into solutions for collective challenges and developed collaborative frameworks to achieve shared priorities. In doing so, we move one step closer to expanding what is possible beyond the realms once thought unreachable.

In celebration of this event, I offer you this compendium of recollection and imagery... as a reminder of Mr. Keating's lesson.

Clark



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Group photo of the attendees



Dinner at Mill's Tavern



Dr. Yung-Hsiao Chiang's Lecture



Dr. Ziya Gokaslan presenting the BGNF award to Dr. Yong-Kwang Tu



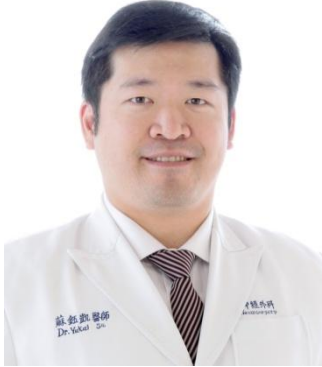
Group photo and Van Wickle Gate



Dinner at Massimo

BROWN GLOBAL NEUROSURGERY

Guest Speakers

	
Yong-Kwang Tu, MD, Ph.D Past-President, WFNS Former Superintendent, Taipei Neuroscience Institute; Professor, NTU/TMU	Chien-Min Lin, MD, Ph.D Vice Superintendent, Taipei Neuroscience Institute Professor, TMU
	
Yung-Hsiao Chiang, MD, Ph.D Superintendent, Taipei Neuroscience Institute Professor, TMU	Yu-Kai Su, MD Director, TMU SHH
	
Jiann-Her Lin, MD, Ph.D Vice Superintendent, Taipei Neuroscience Institute Associate Professor, TMU	Kai-Yuan Chen, MD, Ph.D Attending physician, Taichung Veterans General Hospital

NTU, National Taiwan University. TMU, Taipei Medical University. SHH, Shuang-Ho Hospital.
WFNS: World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies

2025 BROWN GLOBAL NEUROSURGERY FORUM

Time: April 27, 2025
Welcome reception
Location: Mills Tavern
101 N Main St., Providence, RI 02903
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Time: April 28, 2025
Research Seminar
Location: APC 702
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:45-8:00	coffee, continental breakfast	
8:00-8:20	Welcome Remarks and Introduction to Brown University Health, Department of Neurosurgery	Ziya Gokaslan, MD
8:20-8:40	Enabling Technologies in Spinal Column Tumor	Ziya Gokaslan, MD
8:40-8:55	Surgical Management of Trigeminal Schwannomas	Yong-Kwang Tu, MD PhD
8:55-9:10	Endoscopic Endonasal Transcavernous Surgery: Risks versus Rewards	Christine Lee, MD PhD
9:10-9:15	Introduction to Taichung Veteran Hospital	Kai-Yuan Chen, MD PhD
9:15-9:30	AR Application in Spine Surgery	Kai-Yuan Chen, MD
9:30-9:45	Updates on endovascular treatment in acute ischemic stroke and the Rhode Island Hospital Stroke Program	Krisztina Moldovan, MD
9:45-10:00	Current Applications of Robotics in Spine Surgery	Chien-Min Lin, MD PhD
10:00-10:10	Break	
10:10-10:25	Hypoxia and Acidosis Affect Deep Pain Chronicity in Lateral Stenosis Associated Lumbar Radiculopathy	Jiann-Her Lin, MD PhD
10:25-10:40	Waking the brain: towards therapeutic restoration of consciousness after brain injury	Athar Malik, MD PhD

10:40-10:55	Gamma Knife treatment of Pituitary Functional Tumor with Gamma Plan Normalization	Yu-Kai Su, MD
10:55-11:10	Pioneering Pediatric Neurosurgery	Petra Klinge, MD PhD Konstantina Svokos, DO
11:10-11:15	Introduction to Taipei Medical University / Taipei Neuroscience Institute	Yung-Hsiao Chiang, MD PhD
11:15-11:30	Salvage surgery for the painful osteoporotic vertebral compression fracture after initial vertebroplasty	Yung-Hsiao Chiang, MD PhD
11:30-11:45	Glioblastoma Care and Discovery: There and Back Again	Clark C. Chen, MD PhD
11:45-11:55	Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center of Brown Neurology	Chuang-Kuo Wu, MD PhD
11:55-12:00	Concluding Remarks	Adam Levine
12:00-1:30	Lunch and Discussion of Opportunities for Collaboration (APC 6)	Adetokunbo Oyelese, MD PhD
1:30-2:30	Tour of Rhode Island Hospital and Spine Institute	Felicia Sun, MD, Belinda Shao, MD
2:30-4:00	Brown University Tour	Carlin Chuck, MD, Elaina Wang, MD

*Each institutional introduction will be 5-10 minutes in length

**Each academic presentation will consist of a 10-minute lecture followed by a 5-minute Q&A session

Time: April 28, 2025

Celebratory dinner

Location: Massimo Ristorante

134 Atwells Ave, Providence, RI 02903

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM



Group photo on Brown University campus

Drs. Ziya Gokaslan and Clark Chen welcomed honored guests Drs. Chien-Min Lin, Yung-Hsiao Chiang, and Yong-Kwang Tu.

