

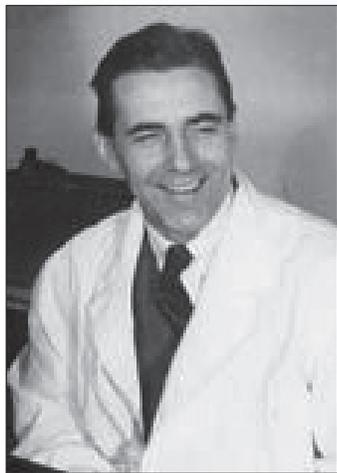
# The Surgical Spotlight

ON ALUMNI, FACULTY, RESIDENTS, STUDENTS & FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

EVENTS AND STORIES FROM FALL AND WINTER 2014-2015



## Bigelow Lecture: Turning Data into Performance Management



Bill Bigelow

Wilfred (Bill) Bigelow was a pioneer of cardiac surgery who introduced the use of hypothermia and electrical stimulation of the heart. He also introduced the pacemaker to Canadian surgery. His trainees populated the surgical programs throughout Canada, and his lasting contributions in clinical cardiac surgery, teaching, and research made him a legend. The Bigelow Lectureship was created to honour his memory and has brought distinguished surgeons and scientists to the University of Toronto for the past 5 years.

Bigelow lecturer Robert Bell obtained his MD degree at McGill, followed by residency in Surgery at the University of Toronto, and training in surgical oncology at the Massachusetts General Hospital. After a distinguished career as a clinical surgical oncologist in the specialty of Orthopaedics, he served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Princess Margaret Hospital. He has been Chairman of the Cancer Quality Program for Cancer Care Ontario and served for 8 years as CEO of the University Health Network. He has recently accepted the position as Ontario's Deputy Minister of Health.

Bob's Bigelow lecture focused on turning data into performance improvement, using cancer surgery as the focus of his narrative. He reconstructed a story that began in 2000, when the healthcare system was chaotic. Patients were being sent to Buffalo and Rochester for radiation therapy. The facilities in Ontario were inadequate to meet the challenge brought by advances in treatment of breast and prostate cancer. Allan Hudson, former CEO of the UHN, convened a Quality

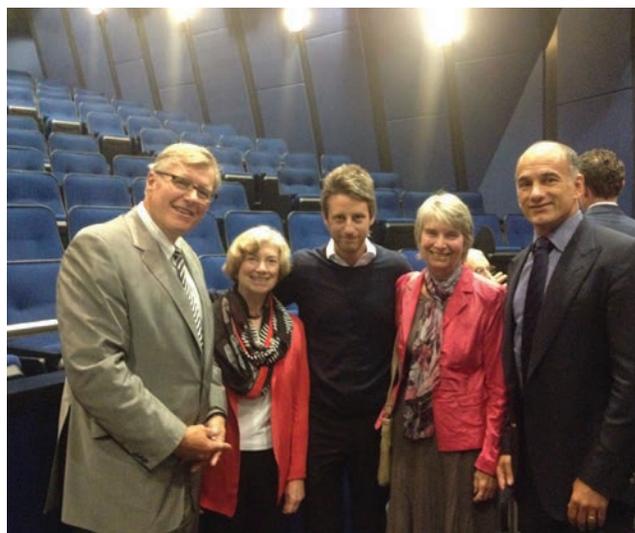
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Council to oversee cancer care. This was a revolutionary idea to have an arm's length quality assurance oversight group. Bob showed an excellent slide of the increasing need for cancer treatment facilities with a baseline requirement, increases related to the aging of the population and the superimposed increases related to population growth. The journey of a patient was described beginning with prevention through screening, to diagnosis and treatment. There are clear-cut opportunities for improvement in the control of cancer. For example, the rate of smoking in Ontarians is 18%; it is only 14% in British Columbia, and even lower in California. A dramatic turnaround resulted from the oversight committee's actions. There is now a 90% return of complete pathology reports within 14 days, with detailed quality markers. For example, the requirement that 8 nodes be sampled and negative in colon cancer allows the surgeon to say definitely that the lymph nodes were negative, obviating the need for chemotherapy. The Rapid Assessment and Management Programs have resulted in excellent access to diagnosis and treatment for patients with cancer ([http://www.surgicalspotlight.ca/Article.aspx?ver=Summer\\_2010&f=SystemsThoracic](http://www.surgicalspotlight.ca/Article.aspx?ver=Summer_2010&f=SystemsThoracic)).

"Data is useless without performance management systems" is the theme Robin McLeod is emphasizing in her new role as VP, Clinical Programs and Quality Initiatives at Cancer Care Ontario. She meets regularly with the LHINs (Local Health Integration Networks) and Bob will visit each of them yearly. He tells each director: "I want you to tell me what's needed, and I'll be back in one year to see what you did about it."

He gave a compelling discussion of mismanagement of Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy, citing the New York Times articles on deaths from misuse (<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/27/us/27radiation.html?pagewanted=all>). The NHS in the United Kingdom requires responsibilities as part of the mandate of the healthcare teams. These include end of life treatment plans, advance care directives, and avoidance of the all too often use of chemotherapy within two weeks of the end of life. "Rateyourdoctor.com" is coming to Canada and some of our doctors have been extraordinarily well rated by their patients.



Bob Bell, Jane McKinnon, Mat Bigelow, Gail MacNaughton and Christopher Caldarone

"We have moved from the chaos of 2000 to a position among the best in the world in our treatment of cancer. Minister of Health Deb Matthews deserves praise for the improvement in the quality of care. CEO pay is now linked to the quality of care by the Excellent Care for All Act, and MOH funding is linked to quality and outcomes. The priorities for the future include home-care, which is currently chaotic with 650 companies and no oversight. It is like the year 2000 for cancer care. The 5% of patients who are poorly served and responsible for 60% of the cost of healthcare are bouncing around between caregivers and institutions."

Bob closed with encouragement to narrow the gap between the early and late adopters in the evolution of improvement and innovations. He reminded us that 50% of cardiac surgery outcomes in the United States are publicly reported, and we can expect that this will come to Canada. Not everyone agrees that this is a great idea<sup>1</sup>.

The Bigelow Lecture was an inspiring and encouraging good news story about healthcare, quite the reverse of what we generally see in the newspapers. We look forward to more from our surgeon in the Ministry.

*M.M.*

## A short interview with Bob Bell



Bob Bell

Bob Bell has been Deputy Minister of Health since June of this year. He is enthusiastic, confident, and having fun. “It is very positive to have a majority government, so that a four - year plan can be made and acted upon. It is different to be in the Ministry as opposed to working as a Hospital CEO - nobody in the healthcare system is working for the Deputy Minister. The challenge is to introduce change management using data and performance management. There will be particular emphasis on homecare and integrating the elements of the healthcare system and sustainability.

For surgeons, the plan is to further elevate the bar and bring in NSQIP (National Surgical Quality Improvement Program) to Ontario ([http://www.surgicalspotlight.ca/Article.aspx?ver=Winter\\_2010&f=KoCaterpillarGrap](http://www.surgicalspotlight.ca/Article.aspx?ver=Winter_2010&f=KoCaterpillarGrap)hs). Bob would like to do a Northern New England Cardiac Surgery style of co-consultation<sup>1</sup>. Fortunately, we have established groupings – the LIHNS, an advantage for managing change.

**Q:** How should we train surgeons to fill the role that you have been and continue to fill in healthcare policy and institutional leadership?

**A:** This is not easily taught in a formal program- it is best to learn as you go along- go to work, then start picking up courses as Barry Rubin has done. Barry is super example of a savvy healthcare executive. I had an interest in coordinated care because my practice was focused on sarcoma, requiring integration of multiple specialties. Interestingly, the new CEO of UHN Peter Pisters is also a sarcoma specialist.

**Q:** How can you use the media to accomplish the goals of the Ministry of Health?

**A:** Well, you certainly require a thick skin to deal with the criticism, since that is a primary mission of the press. Productive and positive columnists like Andre Picard can be a great help.

**Q:** How will you deal with the critique that you are a hospital guy, ill-equipped to deal with the family practice and primary care issues?

**A:** I was a family doctor and emergency room doctor for three years before I went into surgery. My knowledge of this sector of healthcare is not as good as my hospital knowledge, but I am actively engaged in this challenge. I am very pleased with how our Ebola Preparedness is coming along. We have had very good input from Jennifer Gibson from the Joint Center for Bioethics, teaching the Principles of Healthcare Ethics, such as the importance of rest for the workers and other principles derived from the work on SARS epidemic by Ross Upshur and his colleagues.

*M.M.*

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## The Plan Remains the Same



James Rutka

Now that we are mid-way through our Strategic Plan – Transforming Surgery: Beyond the cutting edge – I thought it would be opportune to review the progress we have made in each of our strategic directions. To remind you, the six strategic directions for our plan are: 1) Research; 2) Education; 3) Faculty Development; 4) Best

practices/Quality; 5) Global Outreach and Integration; and 6) Innovation. Of these, the Innovation pillar was one that we set in place after the plan was launched, and is being led by Shaf Keshavjee as Vice-Chair Innovation.

In the Research realm, I was delighted to appoint Michael Fehlings recently as Vice-Chair Research. Michael has quickly moved into action picking up where Ben Alman left off, and leading numerous exciting initiatives and meetings. Michael held a “Town Hall” Meeting for all faculty engaged in research at the Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning at Sick Kids Hospital. The various themes of research were underscored, and excellent discussion points were made by the scientists and surgeon - scientists in attendance. Michael has also recently organized an information night for PGY1-2 residents about to embark on their research training. Numerous faculty actively involved in leading their own research programs were there to present to the residents to let them know the extent and breadth of research opportunities that are available. Finally, Michael facilitated a meeting of all residents in the Department of Surgery, so that they could learn about the Surgeon-Scientist Training program in considerable detail. Research rounds for the Department of Surgery have been renamed as the “Ben Alman Rounds” to acknowledge Ben’s many seminal contributions over the past 7 years as the previous Vice-Chair of Research. I was particularly pleased to note that research funding in the Department of Surgery was at an all-time high at \$46.9 Million. In addition, of the 20 top authors in the entire University of Toronto over the time period of 2009

– 2013, 6 have come from the Department of Surgery!

In Education, Vice-Chair David Latter continues to oversee an amazingly robust enterprise. There have been some significant changes made to the “Fundamentals Course” for PGY1’s & 2’s. Now, the course is being condensed into a 1 year all-inclusive course where residents will spend more time on Tuesday’s each week, but will complete all their learning regarding the Principles of Surgery within 1 year instead of two. Maurice Blitz has been appointed as the new course director having taken over from Dr Bob Mustard. Oleg Safir is leading the new and comprehensive “Prep Course” for PGY1’s which brings residents from all Divisions together to learn basic techniques in OR etiquette, surgical techniques, and ICU/Emergency room procedures. The course has been highly regarded and rated by the residents. Finally, with the success of the Orthopaedics Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) which is now accredited by the Royal College of Surgeons, we are moving towards implementation of Competency Based Assessment Programs in all Divisions beginning this year.

In Faculty Development Ori Rotstein and Paul Grieg have created a Mentoring Program which is now active on the Department of Surgery website. In addition, Ori and Robin Richards are developing principles for late career transitioning of surgeons.

In Quality and Best Practices, Robin McLeod is leading a highly engaged group of faculty on a project analyzing readmission rates for various index procedures in all Divisions of Surgery. It is hoped that identifying factors leading to early readmission will enable us to put systems in place to prevent unscheduled returns to hospital. In addition, Najib Safieddine, Tim Jackson and Joe Pappia are in the final stages of developing and implementing a Quality/Best Practices Curriculum for all residents in Surgery.

In Global Outreach and Integration, Avery Nathens and colleagues are working towards creating an academic pathway for residents who wish to pursue a Masters in Global Health by studying abroad. Numerous surgeons are embedded in surgical initiatives throughout the world including in Botswana, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Niger, Ukraine, and Columbia. A Global Outreach prospectus is being created to illustrate the extent to which surgeons at UofT are committed to helping out worldwide.

Finally, in Innovation, Shaf Keshavjee is preparing a prospectus to highlight the many innovative projects that Department of Surgery faculty at UofT are engaged

in at present, from the design of new implants for arthroplasty, to the use of nanotechnologies in the operating room, to the treatment of patients using MR-guided focused ultrasound techniques, it is clear that innovation is alive and well in the Department of Surgery.

In summary, I am pleased to report that midway through our strategic plan cycle, we are on target to complete what we set out to do at the outset. I would like to thank the leads of each of the pillars and all faculty for their engagement in the process, and for strengthening all aspects of our core values.

*James T Rutka,  
RS McLaughlin Chair, Department of Surgery*

## DR. TREVOR YOUNG ANNOUNCED APPOINTED AS NEW DEAN OF FACULTY OF MEDICINE



Trevor Young

Following an international search which was completed in the fall of 2014, Dr. Trevor Young has been named the next Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, effective January 1st, 2015. Dr. Young has been serving as the Cameron Wilson Chair in Depression

Studies and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at UofT since 2010. He is a clinician-scientist and maintains an active research program in the molecular basis of mood disorders. Dr. Young is a graduate of medical school from the University of Manitoba, and received his PhD from the Institute of Medical Science at UofT. His residency in psychiatry was undertaken at UofT and McGill University. Dr. Young has also held academic appointments in Psychiatry at McMaster University and the University of British Columbia. While Chair of Psychiatry at UofT, Dr. Young had a highly successful record of fundraising in mental health and psychiatry. He was a lead in the formation of the Medical Psychiatry Alliance, a \$20 M partnership between the MOHLTC, UofT, Sick Kids, Trillium Health Partners, and CAMH. The Department of Surgery congratulates Dr Young in his new role, and looks forward to working with him over the years ahead.

## DEAN CATHARINE WHITESIDE, FIRST AMONG EQUALS



Catharine Whiteside

Dean Catharine Whiteside will be stepping down as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine on December 31st, 2015 after having served an 8 year term as the first woman Dean at the University of Toronto. Dean Whiteside will be remembered for her many numerous initiatives including her recent Strategic Plan: Integration—Innovation—Impact which is now in its 4th year of implementation. Dean Whiteside organized the office of advancement in the Faculty of Medicine towards higher goals and achievements. She worked closely with the TAHSN hospitals to strengthen relationships between the University and the separate institutions. She procured several new large donor gifts to help advance the University's mission. She established the Office of Strategic Communications and External Relationships (OSCER), and brought a highly professional and corporate approach to the Faculty of Medicine. During her tenure as Dean, Dr Whiteside was President of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. She oversaw the expansion of the medical school to the Mississauga Academy, and helped form the Office of Integrated Medical Education which facilitates the distributed education model in the GTA. She successfully led the Accreditation of the Medical School by the LCME and the CACMS, and two separate Royal College External Reviews of post-graduate educational programs. A clinician-scientist and nephrologist by training, Dr. Whiteside has devoted her entire career to activities at the University of Toronto since her graduation from Medical School in 1975. Dr Whiteside plans to spend the next year working on large gift advancement opportunities with Universities and Governments in other countries. The Department of Surgery thanks Dean Whiteside for her tremendous support of Surgery, and for her tireless efforts to improve the operations and function of the Faculty of Medicine.

*James T Rutka,  
RS McLaughlin Chair, Department of Surgery*

## The Future of Surgery



Ron Levine

A fascinating cohort of new residents has beaten the competition to enter the Gallie Program in July 2014. They have diverse and interesting backgrounds.

Forty-three residents have entered the department. Thirty-three have come through the CaRMS match and are Canadian Medical School graduates. Seven have come through the IMG match and include Canadians who have studied abroad and are returning to Canada for their surgical training, as well as Permanent Residents who have obtained their MD in foreign countries and will be practicing in Ontario. Three are visa trainees who will return to their home country following training. What a great gift this diverse group of bright young minds brings to our department. Welcome new residents!

*Ronald H. Levine, MD*  
*Director, Postgraduate Surgical Education*  
*Department of Surgery*



Muhammad Ali Akbar -NS



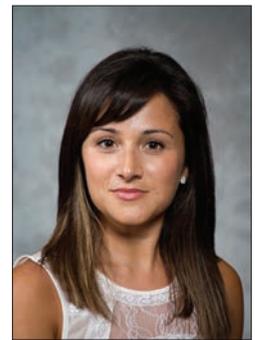
Husain Al-Mubarak -VS



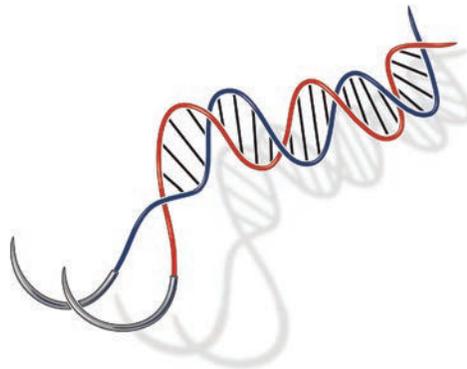
Jetan Badhiwala -NS



Kunal Bhanot - OS



Marissa Bonyun - OS





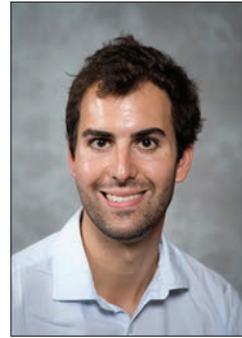
Lev Bubis- GS



Justin Chang - OS



Justues Chang- OS



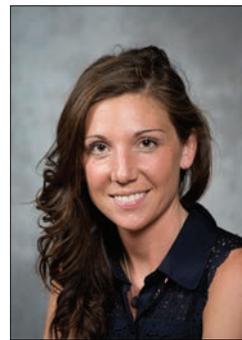
Andrew DiPierdomenico - US



Fahima Dossa- GS



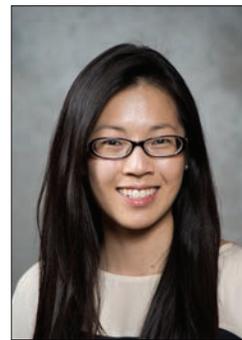
Stephanie Dreckmann - PRS



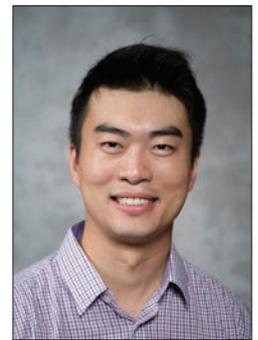
Sarah Ferrara - US



Oscar Henao Florez - GS



Joyce Fu - OS



Rui Gong - GS



Vaibhav Gupta - GS



James Higgins- OS



Amanda Hird - US



Lui Jamal - GS



Zishan Jetha - GS



Yunni Jeong- GS



Tristan Juvet - US



Kyle Juraschka - NS



Diana Magee-US



Wanda Marini - GS



Joel-Amir Moktar - OS



Farshad Nassiri - NS



Carol Oliveira -GS



Daniel Cornejo Palma - GS



David Parente- GS



Jonathan Peck -OS



Helene Retrouvey- PRS



Melissa Roy- PRS



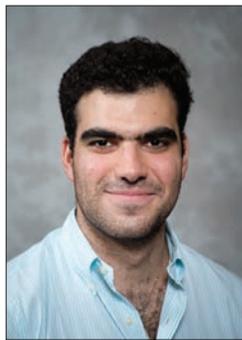
Matthew Rubacha - PRS



Erin Sadler- GS



Konrad Salata- VS



Omar Selim - VS



Derrick Tam- CS



Shervin Taslimi- NS



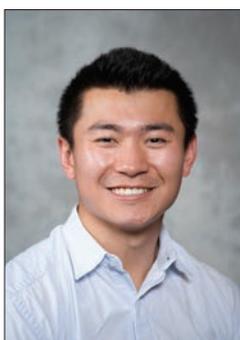
Peter Urbanellis- GS



Miliana Vojvodic- PRS



Trevor Wood- GS



David Zhang - GS

# Crossgrove Lecture: Stress, Burnout and Personal Wellness among North American Surgeons

If all the world is a stage, then Charles Balch has played every starring role in the theatre of surgical oncology. The topic he will address today: stress, burnout, personal wellness tugs at our very being and affects us all in one way or another as we skip and waddle through our lives.

His surgical career began at the University of Alabama in the nascent role of a surgical oncologist. One that included a basic science immunology lab, aided by a fellowship at the Scripps Clinic during residency, and randomized clinical trials in breast surgery. His collaborative health outcomes research with the Sydney Australia Melanoma Unit, formed the foundation of our current knowledge on prognostic factors for melanoma and the AJCC/UICC staging of melanoma.

I was lucky enough to join Charles as a first year fellow in the mid 80's during his first year after recruitment to MD Anderson Cancer Center as Chair of the Department of Surgical Oncology. Soon, he ascended the surgical ladder from Division and Department Chief to Executive Vice President for Health Affairs. He has been President of the Society of Surgical Oncology and was the founding editor of its journal – the Annals of Surgical Oncology.

After serving in the CEO roles at City of Hope National Medical Center and ASCO, he settled down at Johns Hopkins until 2011 when he moved to University of Texas South Western Medical School. All the while, he was consistently devoted to his wife Carol and his family.

*David McCready*



left to right: David McCready, Lorne Rotstein, MIM, Charles Balch and Alan Okrainec

Charles Balch began his Grand Rounds by saying “Although Grand Rounds usually focuses on a particular patient, for the next 60 minutes, you are the patient.” He then delivered a riveting lecture on burnout among surgeons with this challenge: “Burnout is widely prevalent, preventable, and treatable disease that affects a surprisingly high number of surgeons. It is defined as physical or mental collapse caused by overwork.” In his survey of members of the American College of Surgeons 40% suffered from symptoms of burnout.

Burnout differs from the global impairment of depression, which affects all aspects of an individual's life. “Burnout can affect both physicians' satisfaction with their work and the quality of care that they provide. It is characterized by emotional exhaustion, lack of interest and enthusiasm for work, physical exhaustion, depersonalization and a decreased sense of personal accomplishment. All of these lead to various levels of ineffectiveness. The extreme consequences of stress and burnout include

## ARE WE AS PHYSICIANS “AT RISK”?

**One of the tragic paradoxes of burnout is that those most susceptible appear to be the most dedicated, conscientious, responsible, and motivated.**

❖ **Individuals with these traits are often idealistic and have perfectionist qualities that may lead them to submerge themselves in their work and devote themselves to it until they have nothing left to give.**

❖ **Thus commitment to patients, attention to detail, and recognizing the responsibility associated with patients' trust—the very traits that define a good surgeon — also place them at greater risk for burnout.**

Balch CM, Freischlag JA, Shanafelt T.  
Stress and Burnout Among Surgeons, Arch Surg, April, 2009

## MAYO CLINIC RANDOMIZED STUDY ON BURNOUT PREVENTION

- \* The intervention involved 19 biweekly facilitated physician discussion groups incorporating elements of mindfulness, reflection, shared experience, and small-group learning for 9 months
- \* An intervention for physicians based on a facilitated small-group curriculum improved meaning and engagement in work and reduced depersonalization, with sustained results at 12 months after the study.

drug and alcohol addictions, sleep disturbance, fatigue, broken relations, including divorce, chronic diseases, early retirement, depression, suicidal ideation, or suicide. The characteristic personality of the physicians that makes them vulnerable to burnout is their thoroughness, commitment to patients and sense of responsibility and patient trust. When maladapted to these conditions, physicians develop difficulty relaxing, have problems allocating time for their family. They sense responsibilities beyond what they can control, feel they are not doing enough, have difficulty setting limits, and confuse health self-interest with selfishness. The potential contributing causes include the length of training, the delay in gratification for the sacrifices made during training, the lack of realization, or fulfillment of expectations, once the goal is reached, financial issues, limited control over the delivery of medical service, grief and guilt about patient loss or unsatisfactory outcomes, insufficient protected time, long working hours, enormous workloads, feelings of isolation, a hostile workplace environment, lack of autonomy or decision involvement, and imbalance between career and family.”

In a large survey of American College of Surgeons members, Balch et al. found that 40% of respondents fit the criteria for burnout and 30% screened positive for depression<sup>1, 2</sup>.

## TOP TEN DIFFERENCES AMONG SURGEONS NOT BURNED OUT AND THOSE WHO ARE BURNED OUT

*'Avoiding Burnout: The Personal Health Habits and Wellness Practices of U.S. Surgeons'* Shanafelt TD, Balch CM et al 2012

- I find meaning in my work
- I protect time away from work with my spouse, family and friends
- I focus on what is most important to me in life
- I try to take a positive outlook on things
- I take vacations
- I participate in recreation/hobbies/exercise
- I talk with family, significant other, or friends about how I am feeling
- I have developed an approach/philosophy to dealing with patients' suffering and death
- I incorporate a life philosophy stressing balance in my personal and professional life
- I nurture the religious/spiritual aspects of myself

Substance abuse is a significant outcome of burnout. The prevalence of alcohol abuse, or dependence in male surgeons was 13.8%, and for female surgeons 25.4%. Surveys of physicians in general conducted by the American Medical Association find similar levels of burnout and depression among physicians in general. Among the most salient remedies was an emphasis on time away from work that is more than simply a chance to rest for another workday. Caring for oneself, cultivating relationships, and nurturing personal interests provides the opportunity for achievement and personal growth outside of work.

The top 10 differences among surgeons not burned out and those who are summarized nearby. Having mentors and being a mentor is an important source of value, balance, and personal satisfaction throughout a professional career.

*M.M.*

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# Gallie Day: A Celebration of Surgical Science



W.B. Gallie

Gallie Day celebrates the memory and accomplishments of William Edward Gallie who developed our Department of Surgery into the first fully-coordinated training program for young surgeons in Canada.

Gallie was born in Barrie, Ontario in

1882, the son of a building contractor. He graduated from the University of Toronto and trained at Toronto General Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children. He pioneered the use of “living sutures” while serving in World War I, and was recognized for his success treating fractures of spinal vertebrae. Although he received many offers to work in the United States, Gallie remained in Toronto, committed to his goal of creating a systematic course here so that Canadians no longer had to travel abroad to complete their surgical training. His devotion was not lost on his students who happily called themselves “the Gallie slaves”. In 1937 they formed the Gallie Club, meeting annually to present major papers. For his birthday every January, Dr. Gallie and his wife entertained his students and former students, who would return from all over the world for a reception in their home on Teddington Park Blvd, overlooking the York Mills ravine.

*Julie Roorda*

*Assistant Editor 2004 - 2009*

*(with notes from Ernest Meyer and Toronto Star columnist Donald Jones)*

To introduce the 40th Gallie Day celebration, Professor James Rutka reflected on the major social, medical, scientific and political changes which have occurred over the past 40 years. The theme of this year’s Gallie Day was “*Commercialization and Research*”. Commercialization and innovation are key to driving new discoveries and to enable their translation into practical clinical solutions.



James Rutka and Michael Fehlings

These goals embody the essence of what it means to be an academic surgeon in 2014.

The symposium speakers emphasized their passion and commitment to their commercial ventures and the pressing need for the surgeon scientist phenotype to evolve if patients are to benefit from translation of discoveries. **Rafael Hofstein** (PhD, President & CEO, MaRS Innovation, MaRS Centre) presented his perspectives in a lecture entitled “*From Bench to Bedside: Best Practices for commercialization*”. Dr. Hofstein emphasized the role that MaRS can play in facilitating translational research and innovation. **Milos R. Popovic** (PhD, PEng, Toronto Rehab Chair in Spinal Cord Injury Research) described a 17-year long journey of developing a concept for electrically stimulating functional upper limb recovery from an idea to a Health Canada approved product, which has gone global. His talk was entitled “*Commercialization: Where Brownian Motion Meets Serendipity*”. **Michael Tymianski** (MD PhD FRCSC, Head, Division of Neurosurgery; Senior Scientist, Division of Fundamental Neurobiology, TWRI-UHN), talked about his biotherapeutics company (NoNo Inc) dedicated to the research, development and commercialization of a novel pharmaceutical PSD95 antagonist for the treatment of stroke, traumatic brain injury, and pain. His talk was entitled “*Commercialization the Hard Way*”.



Geoffrey Gurtner

**Paul Walker** (MD PhD FRCSC, President & CEO, Spectral Diagnostics Inc. and Past Surgeon-in-Chief at UHN) discussed his unique path to developing a product focused on improving outcomes in sepsis. His talk was entitled “*Why Commercialize Your Discovery - A View From The Front Line*”. Each of the speakers presented a unique perspective but each emphasized the importance of surgeons being involved and leading efforts directed at innovation and commercialization.

This year’s Gordon Murray Lecturer was **Geoffrey C. Gurtner, MD** (Professor and Associate Chairman of Surgery, Professor [by courtesy] of Materials Science and Engineering, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA USA). Dr. Gurtner’s talk was entitled “*The Art of the Practical: Translating Scientific Discovery into the Real World*”. The following words, provided by Dr. Gurtner, summarize his key message: “It is well known that surgeons have pioneered the technologies that have transformed medicine. The treatment of coronary artery disease, solid tumors and critically ill patients were all developed by surgeons and were based on insights gained in surgical research labs. However, as medicine has become more complex, innovation has changed from purely procedural (e.g. new operations) to more completely new approaches to existing disease states (e.g. minimally invasive valve replacement). Recently, new barriers to innovation have also arisen including the corporatization of intellectual property, increasing regulatory complexity, rising health care costs and conflict of interest concerns. These challenges have made it more difficult for practicing surgeon-scientists to bring scientific advances into the clinic. It seems likely that the successful practice of surgery in the future will require a greater familiarity with the process of technology development and an increased ability



David Cadotte

to work with the private sector. Understanding how medical technology is developed will be required for surgeons to move scientific discoveries into the clinic. Hopefully, these new skills will allow surgeon-scientists to remain leaders in the advancing patient care and medicine” (Geoffrey C. Gurtner).

We had a record number of abstracts submitted by trainees working with our faculty. There were 10 platform presentations and 78 poster presentations. The Gallie Bateman Awards (for Surgeon Scientist Training Program participants) and the McMurrich Awards (for any trainee working with a member of the faculty of surgery) were judged for both platform presentations and poster presentations. The range of assorted topics and researchers highlighted the wide-ranging and tremendously high quality research being conducted in our Department.

We had 10 superb oral presentations, which scored highly. Surgeon Scientist Training Program (SSTP) trainees are awarded the Gallie Bateman prizes.

First prize went **David W. Cadotte** (supervisor: Michael G. Fehlings), for his oral presentation entitled



Gelareh Zadeh receiving the Bernard Langer Surgeon Scientist Training Program Award from Bernard Langer



George Borschel receiving the George Armstrong Peters Prize from Chris Forrest

*“Visualizing Structural and Functional Plasticity of the Human Cervical Spinal Cord”*. **Jennica Platt** (Natalie Causarano, Nancy Baxter, Shaghayegh Bagher, Jennifer Jones, Kelly A. Metcalfe, Stefan O.P. Hofer, Anne C. O’Neill, Terry Cheng, Elizabeth Starenkyj, [supervisor: Toni Zhong]) received second prize for her oral presentation entitled, *“Pre-Consultation Educational Group Intervention to Improve Shared Decision-Making for Post-Mastectomy Breast Reconstruction: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial”*. Third prize was awarded to **Marisa Louridas** (Esther M. Bonrath, Dana A. Sinclair, Nicolas J. Dedy, [supervisor: Teodor P. Grantcharov]) for her oral presentation entitled *“Mental Practice to Enhance Advanced Laparoscopic Surgical Performance in the Operating Room: A Randomized Controlled Trial”*. The fourth prize was awarded to **Chethan Sathya** (Paul Wales, Damon Scales, Paul Karanicolas, [supervisor: Avery B. Nathens]), for the poster presentation entitled *“Mortality among Injured Children Treated at Different Trauma Center Types”*.

The McMurrich Awards are presented to research trainees who are not in the Surgeon Scientist Training Program). The first place award was won by **Vijay Ramaswamy** (Supervisor: Michael D. Taylor) for his oral presentation, entitled *“Recurrence Patterns Differ across Medulloblastoma Subgroups”*. **Shabana Amanda Ali** (Mushriq Al-Jazrawe, Heather Whetstone, Raymond Poon, [supervisor: Benjamin A. Alman]) received second prize for her oral presentation entitled *“Cholesterol Homeostasis Mediates Hedgehog Signaling in Chondrocytes*



Left to right- Christopher Caldarone, Aria Fallah, and Marion Fazel

*and Osteoarthritis”*. Third prize was awarded to **Kimberly Lau** (Hirotaka Tao, Haijiao Liu, Kendra Sturgeon, Rodrigo Fernandez-Gonzalez, Yu Sun, [supervisor: Sevan Hopyan]) for her oral presentation entitled *“Anisotropic Stress Orients Remodeling of Mammalian Limb Bud Ectoderm”*. **Hae-Ra Cho** (Hirotaki Shimizu, Hiroaki Toba, Sylvia Asa, [supervisor: Mingyao Liu]) received fourth prize for the poster presentation entitled *“Deficiency of a Novel Adaptor Protein, Xb130, Is Associated with the Development of Severe Multinodular Goiter”*.

Faculty research awards went to **Gelareh Zadeh - Bernard Langer Surgeon Scientist Training Program Award** - awarded to an outstanding graduate of the Surgeon Scientist Training Program in the Department who shows



Niloofer Dehghan receiving the Zane Cohen Clinical Fellowship from Zane Cohen



George Oreopolous (right) receiving the Surgical Skills Centre Award from Oleg Safir

the greatest promise for a career in academic surgery; **Gregory Borschel - George-Armstrong Peters Prize** - awarded to a young investigator who has shown outstanding productivity during his initial period as an independent investigator as evidenced by research publications in peer reviewed journals, grants held, and students trained; **Avery Nathens - Charles Tator Surgeon Scientist Mentoring Award** - recognizing individuals supervising participants in the SSTP who emulate Professor Tator's qualities, namely excellence in research, commitment to SSTP mentoring and dedication to promotion of Surgeon-Scientists; **Laurence Klotz -Lister Prize** - awarded to an investigator who has shown outstanding and continuing productivity of international stature as evidenced by research publications, grants held, students trained and other evidence of stature of the work produced.

The fourth **Shafie Fazel Award**, established in memory of Dr. Shafie Fazel, is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments during his/her residency both as a surgeon and as an investigator. This was presented to **Aria Fallah** (PGY 6, Division



Justin Lee receiving the D.R. Wilson Award from Neil Flesher



Left to right- James Rutka, Dimitri Anastakis, Michael Fehlings, Rosalind Bradford, and Geoffrey C. Gurtner

of Neurosurgery).

The **Zane Cohen Clinical Fellowship** presented to a clinical fellow who has practiced and achieved at the highest level while being a clinical fellow in the Department of Surgery, was awarded to **Niloofer Dehghan** (Division of Orthopaedics). The Tovee Award is presented to an academic staff member of the Department of Surgery who has made the greatest contribution to the educational activities of the Department, as exemplified by Dr. E. Bruce Tovee during his outstanding career. This year's recipient of the **Tovee Postgraduate Prize is Oleg Safir**, and **new mom, Darlene Fenech** received the Tovee



from left to right: Sylvia Perry, Nancy Condo, Martin McKneally, Val Cabral and James Rutka

#### **Undergraduate Prize.**

The **Surgical Skills Centre Distinguished Educator Award** demonstrates the Centre's commitment to surgical skills education. This award recognizes those individuals who have made exemplary, innovative contributions to teaching and learning in the Surgical Skills Centre over the past year. This was presented to **George Oreopolous**. The **D.R. Wilson Award for teaching**

is made annually to the surgical resident who is rated by undergraduate students as an outstanding teacher. Resident **Justin Lee** “demonstrated both a positive attitude toward teaching and was considered a good surgical role model for undergraduate medical students”.

The 46 judges for the poster competition as well as the 16 timers, who volunteered their time for the poster judging deserve special thanks, as well as the Research Committee members who reviewed and judged the oral presentations.

As we celebrate how great the Day and Evening awards ceremony went, we need to acknowledge the tremendous effort it took from everyone involved. The day could not have gone as well as it did without everyone’s participation and collaborative efforts. Thanks again this year to **Andrea McCart** for assigning the judges to the posters, **Joan Lipa** and **Gregory Borschel** for moderating the sessions, and **Sylvia Perry** for making sure the day’s and evening’s preparations were adhered to. As we enjoyed our meal, we had a beautiful intermission with enchanting piano playing by Alex Mine and the Jazz Quartet.

A very special thanks goes to **Val Cabral** for her outstanding dedication and hard work to organize the Surgeon Scientist Training Program, and the Gallie Day events.

*Val Cabral with contributions from Michael G. Fehlings*

#### ALUMNI AND ADVANCEMENT CORNER:

## Teaching Thoracic Surgery in the Tradition of Norman Bethune

Jean Deslauriers completed general surgery and cardiovascular and thoracic surgical training at the University of Toronto between 1969 and 1975. He has just completed a six week visiting scholarship at the Shanghai Fudan University Cancer Center where he taught residents, advised surgeons in the operating room, helped with the writing of scientific papers, reviewed research projects and contributed to improving the running of the thoracic surgical service. Six years ago, he spent a full year as an “International Consultant” at Jilin University in Northeast China, near the Mongolian border. There, he reorganized

all educational activities, helped thoracic surgeons publish ten papers and book chapters in the North American literature, opened a thoracic surgical library, started a data base for lung cancer and founded the “Bethune Chest Center” which brought together thoracic surgeons, respirologists and thoracic oncologists.

Jean also operated on a daily basis, performing 175 major thoracic procedures without a single operative mortality. All of these visits to China were part of an exchange program between Laval and Jilin Universities, begun in 1987 when Chinese thoracic surgeons came to study in Quebec City. Jean has also done similar but shorter (6-8 weeks) visiting scholarships in countries such as Morocco (Casablanca, 2013) and Turkey (Istanbul, 2013). In Morocco he was involved in the reorganization of the care of lung cancer patients. He will be going back there to work with the Royal Family (Princess Laila Salma) to further improve investigation and management of such patients. Interestingly, 80%-90% of thoracic surgery done in Morocco is for benign lung diseases such as tuberculosis and hydatidosis, as opposed to Canada where over 90% is done for lung cancer.

Jean trained with outstanding Toronto thoracic surgeons such as Griff Pearson, Bob Ginsberg, Norman Delarue and Robert Henderson. He says “Those were magical moments in my development. I am so happy



Bronze sculpture of thoracic surgeon Norman Bethune outside the Medical Sciences building



Jean Deslauriers (right) fishing with Bill Nelems (left) and Griff Pearson

that my father advised me to go to Toronto for my surgical training as well as to “learn English”.

Jean Deslauriers has been the driving force behind the writing of a unique book entitled “Evolution of Thoracic Surgery in Canada” co-authored with Bill Nelems and FG Pearson. The book, which was released last September in Vancouver, details the numerous and outstanding contributions of Canadian thoracic surgeons to the evolution of the specialty over the past 100 years. It is a tribute to Canadian pioneers such as Edward Archibald from Montreal and Griff Pearson from Toronto who have established a worldwide recognized “School of thinking” in thoracic surgery. According to Toni Lerut, a well-known thoracic surgeon from Leuven, Belgium, “The book is a landmark publication and should be in the library of every surgeon who practices thoracic surgery in the world”. Of note, all proceeds from book sales are donated to a foundation to support and promote research and education in Canadian thoracic surgery\*.



Debbie and Jean Deslauriers

Jean will be featured at the annual American Association for Thoracic Surgery meeting next April in Seattle as the 2015 “Legend in Thoracic Surgery”. In 2010, he received the annual “Carrière en Enseignement” award from Laval University and more recently, he became member of the Order of Canada. He is now retired from active surgical practice but intends to still keep doing his work as a visiting scholar in different countries to help with the teaching of thoracic surgery.

His wife and ally, Debbie, is a clinical research nurse who always travels with him on these visiting scholarships. She teaches about infection control and principles of clinical research.

*M.M.*

\*The book can be ordered through the Canadian Association of Thoracic Surgeons website at <http://www.canadianthoracicsurgeons.ca/evolution-of-thoracic-surgery-in-canada/>.

## Surgery BOUNDLESS Donor Recognition

The Faculty of Medicine’s \$500 million campaign is a cornerstone of the University of Toronto’s unprecedented \$2 billion Boundless campaign, the largest University fundraising initiative in Canadian history. Our fundraising goal is more than a target; it’s a promise to fulfill our boundless potential and provide international leadership in improving health through innovation in research and education.

This is a promise we will keep because of the tireless dedication and impact of our alumni, faculty and supporters.

This is an exciting era for health research and education at the Faculty of Medicine and the Department of Surgery at UofT. Now is the time to invest in our collective future and in the people at our University who shape it.

We are proud to recognize the support and leadership of the following donors to the Boundless Campaign\*:

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# 30 Years of Lung Transplantation ... What's next?

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developed in the laboratory by a young surgical resident named Shaf Keshavjee. This improved solution helped preserve the microcirculation, enhancing bronchial anastomotic healing. Anaesthesia and critical care problems were managed by careful analysis of previous experience, and the period of post-transplant injury to the lung was expertly managed by thoracic surgeon intensivist Tom Todd. Joined in 12 hour shifts by the other members of the thoracic surgery team who slept in the ICU beside the transplant patient, Tom Todd, Alex Paterson and

## REGISTERING TO BE AN ORGAN DONOR TAKES ONLY 2 MINUTES.

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The first successful lung transplant was performed in Toronto thirty years ago. The transplant was the culmination of an intense and brilliant research campaign driven by the remarkable determination of Joel Cooper, then a young staff surgeon on the thoracic service headed by Griff Pearson at Toronto General Hospital,

Problems that had been encountered in previous attempts to transplant the lung were systematically addressed across a broad research spectrum. Muscular deconditioning resulting from chronic pulmonary insufficiency was countered by exercising the patients under the supervision of physiotherapists, who monitored oxygen saturation and heart rate while pushing the rest of the transplant candidate's body to the maximum tolerance. The problem of bronchial dehiscence related to the scant vascularity at the suture line was countered by wrapping a pedicled graft of omentum around the anastomosis. Reperfusion injury to the lung was addressed by minimizing the ischemia time and the use of LPD Perfusion,

### TORONTO FIRSTS IN LUNG TRANSPLANT HISTORY

1983	World first successful single lung transplant
1986	World first successful double lung transplant
1986	World first successful paediatric lung transplant
1988	World first double lung transplant for cystic fibrosis
2006	First North American use of the Novalung artificial lung to keep patients alive long enough to receive life-saving transplants
2008	First in human, Toronto Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion System to repair and recondition donor lungs prior to transplant
2009	Use of gene therapy to repair injured human donor lungs
2010	World first successful neonatal lung transplant across the blood type barrier
2011	Establishment of the world's first clinical Organ Regeneration Laboratory in TGH Operating Room



Left to right: Mel Goldberg, Joel Cooper, Shaf Keshavjee, Alec Patterson and Tom Todd

Wilf DeMayo steered the patient through the inevitably stormy postoperative course, along with then thoracic fellow Shaf Keshavjee. Immunosuppression had been substantially improved by the introduction of cyclosporine and reduction in the use of steroids.

The next 30 years brought dramatic advances in lung transplantation under the leadership of the Toronto General team. These are outlined in the accompanying box.

At present, lung transplantation is remarkably effective. It is conducted in centers throughout the world, many of them headed by surgeons and respirologists trained in Toronto. The development of ex-vivo perfusion using high dose antibiotics and gene transfection is the latest advance ([http://www.surgicalspotlight.ca/Article.aspx?ver=Winter-Spring\\_2013&f=Main](http://www.surgicalspotlight.ca/Article.aspx?ver=Winter-Spring_2013&f=Main)).

“We have continued to build the program by recruiting superb talent to look for solutions and to translate them into a series of innovations that we brought to the bedside. The future promises more and safer transplants with lungs that will outlive the recipients. The prepared minds and the reflective analysis of the Toronto General team have led to success. All living lung transplant patients were invited to the Gala as guests of the thoracic surgery group.

*M.M.*

## Paul Greig: Mentoring the Mentors



Paul Greig

Paul Greig is directing the Mentorship Program of the Department of Surgery. This is a component of the Faculty Development Pillar of the Department's Five Year Strategic Plan. Department of Surgery Strategic Plan Implementation Coordinator Joanna Giddens is implementing the strategic plan and Ori Rotstein is directing this pillar. Ori's view is that academic surgeons need mentoring early in their careers, a view that is well supported in the literature. In a systematic review of 39 studies, Sambunjak et al. found that mentoring had an important influence on personal development, career guidance, career choice, and research productivity, including publication and grant success (JAMA 2006;296:1103-15). Faculty members with a mentor had more grants as PI, more publications in peer reviewed journals, and reported greater career satisfaction. Jackson et al. found that “lack of a mentor” was cited as the 1st or 2nd most important factor hindering academic progress by 95% of participants (Acad Med. 2003;78:328-334.). In their mid-career, surgeons can benefit from coaching, as described so well by Atul Gawande in his article Personal Best1 (<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2011/10/03/personal-best>). Later in their careers, surgeons often need advice about transition into their “next career” or retirement.

Paul has read extensively about the mentoring process and its value to new Faculty. He notes that the Department of Medicine's website is very well developed on mentoring. “A little more structure and Departmental assistance to our Mentors and Mentees would facilitate

further success of our mentorship program and more importantly the academic success of our newly recruited Faculty.” As a practical approach, he has reviewed all the Memoranda of Agreement written in the past 3 years for the 36 new members of the faculty from 2011 to the present. The template of the MOA specifies the identification of a mentor. However, of the 36, only 22 had mentors, and 36% or 14 did not.

His plan is to create a program that

1. Identifies a Mentor Leader or “Champion” in each Division
2. Identify those new faculty without Mentors and working with the Divisional leads, identify an appropriate Mentor
3. Provide Mentor & Mentee education/training at the Centre for Faculty Development through separate workshops for mentors and mentees
4. Develop the metrics to determine the effectiveness of the Mentor-mentee relationships and provide the opportunity for change

To date, Paul has met with and presented the Mentorship program to each of the divisions at their monthly meetings, and requested the identification of the division’s “Mentor Champion”. Joanna Giddens has contacted all our newly recruited Faculty, and confirmed their current Mentors. The next steps are: identification of Mentors for those without and invite all to the workshops for mentors and mentees. Through the Center for Faculty Development, they are developing ½ day seminar/workshops for mentors and a similar one for mentees to be held in February and March..

The second component of the plan is evaluation of the program. The outcomes will range from how many meetings occurred to how many grants and publications, how many family problems were encountered, and was the relationship perceived as being effective? Paul proposes that a checklist-type of tool might be implemented that mentors can use at each meeting to chart progress. He plans to develop such a tool in conjunction with the Divisional Champions’ input. The plan is for mentors to know each other and to stimulate each other in their learning and developing their role.

“Clinical success is easy, academic success is not”, says Paul, who is working with the full time faculty first and will later expand the program to include part-time faculty. Jim Rutka initiated this program; he will be

able by next September to show the new faculty in his opening Grand Rounds and identify their mentors, an acknowledgement of the importance of the role and the process of mentorship. It is anticipated that Mentors will be rewarded and a Mentor of the Year will be named.

There is an active mentorship focus in the Center for Faculty Development at St. Michael’s Hospital. Karen Lesley is a well-informed leader in this area. Paul is optimistic about the Mentorship Program, because the structure is well defined, accountability will be emphasized, and there will be metrics of success. There will be reporting back to the Department from the mentors and from the Divisional Coordinators.

Mentor is the mythical Greek father of mentoring programs, who was responsible for mentoring Telemachus, the son of Odysseus, while Odysseus was off fighting the Trojan Wars for ten years (see Editor’s Column for an evaluation of his performance).

#### REFERENCES

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## The Zane Cohen Centre

### CARING FOR THE FAMILY AT RISK



Zane Cohen

In 2009, the Zane Cohen Centre was founded, bringing together a multidisciplinary team consisting of gastroenterologists, surgeons, psychiatrists, psychologists, pathologists, radiologists, molecular geneticists, genetic counsellors, epidemiologists, paediatricians, and IT specialists from across Toronto.

Their goal is to build knowledge and provide comprehensive care to families affected by hereditary bowel cancer and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). This is the only centre in the world with all of these experts working in one space, a tremendous resource for patients affected by hereditary cancer and IBD. It allows for comprehensive, multi-disciplinary care and counselling for patients whose illnesses overlap both the medical and surgical specialties.

The unique collaborative environment at The Zane Cohen Centre has enhanced research efforts and developed a worldwide reputation as a leader in gastrointestinal disease research. The centre has become a destination, both nationally and internationally, for researchers interested in investigating hereditary cancer and IBD.

The Zane Cohen Centre is home to the largest familial gastrointestinal cancer registry in Canada. The registry data extends back more than thirty years. This database is a source of substantial contribution to the understanding of hereditary cancer. It has allowed the identification of multiple genes that are now routinely used to identify patients at risk for gastrointestinal malignancy. One of the most notable contributions is identification of the role microsatellite instability plays in the prognosis of colorectal malignancy - a finding that has influenced the use of adjuvant chemotherapy worldwide.

Currently, The Zane Cohen Centre is the lead site in the most promising study in Crohn's disease research. This international, prospective project was developed by and based at the Centre. One out of every 150 Canadians has IBD. There is no known cause or cure. GEM stands for Genetic, Environmental, and Microbial. The study is investigating the ways in which genetic predisposition, environmental influences, and microbial interactions combine in Crohn's disease. GEM identifies healthy siblings or children of people living with Crohn's disease and follows them both before and after diagnosis. By tracking individuals at risk, investigators hope to identify the triggers and factors involved in the development of the disease. Ultimately this knowledge could prognosticate the course of patients with IBD over their lifetimes and tailor medical and surgical therapy on an individual basis.

Because their investigators are clinicians, the Zane Cohen Centre champions translational research and is able to quickly and efficiently bring new research findings into the clinical setting through a number of programs, such as the Evidence Based Reviews in Surgery and the Best Practice in General Surgery, which analyze primary research and integrate the results into guidelines that are applied to clinical work every day in Ontario.

The patient is central to the activity but also to the existence of The Zane Cohen Centre. While many of the researchers have sizeable grants, this money is not enough to cover the infrastructure costs necessary for

cutting edge research. The centre could not continue to operate without the generous support from patients and their families. The generous nature of the center's donors reflects their inherent altruism. Many substantial donors have a family member whose life has been impacted by IBD or hereditary bowel cancer. It is customary to publicly recognize and honour such with ceremonies or by dedicating a part of the centre in their name. However, these donors believe so strongly in the Zane Cohen Centre that they consistently refuse recognition. The donors' hope is that research at the centre will contribute to a cure for inflammatory bowel disease and bowel cancer. With their continued support, the Zane Cohen Centre is working to make these dreams a reality.

*Ryan Snelgrove*

## Students' Corner

**SURGICAL EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY (SEAD) DIRECTOR DAVE CORNELL**



Dave Cornell

Dave Cornell is a 3rd year medical student currently in his orthopaedic surgery rotation with Drs Ferguson and Wunder at Mount Sinai Hospital. He is the 1T6 student representative for the Surgical Education Directorate (SED), and participated in the SEAD program during his 1st year before being selected as the Director of the program for 2014. During his first year of medical school, he was among 20 students selected to participate

in SEAD, a two week elective program that exposes students to direct-entry surgical specialties through observerships, workshops and seminars.

A Canadian National Track and Field medalist and Canada Games competitor in high school, Dave coached in the sport for six years. Prior to earning his undergraduate degree in Molecular Biology and Chemistry at Saint Mary's University in Nova Scotia, he worked as a tradesman for 10 years with his father's plumbing company specializing in diagnostic boroscopy (a technique similar to guiding endoscopic surgical instruments) and stenting pipes with epoxy liners. He spent 18 months as a volunteer Firefighter and First Responder, being dispatched to motor vehicle accidents, medical assists, rescue-recovery missions, and structure and forest fires. It was on an ambulance run, where he assisted the paramedics with cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and dropped the patient off at a hospital, that he realized he wanted to pursue a career in medicine. "I knew then I wanted to be on the other side. I wanted to be receiving the patient, so I did my Bachelor of Science and worked as a phlebotomist in the mornings to prepare myself for medical school. I loved the hospital work, and I was fortunate to be accepted at the University of Toronto." Another defining moment that propelled Dave towards medicine was his experience first on scene at a house fire. He went in "on the hose" searching for a missing 5 year old, who was luckily found unharmed. [Aristotle teaches us that "courage is the ability to act in the presence of fear. It is not fearlessness which is foolhardy."] "I discovered I loved the stress and wanted to further develop life-saving skills in a broader range of patient settings".

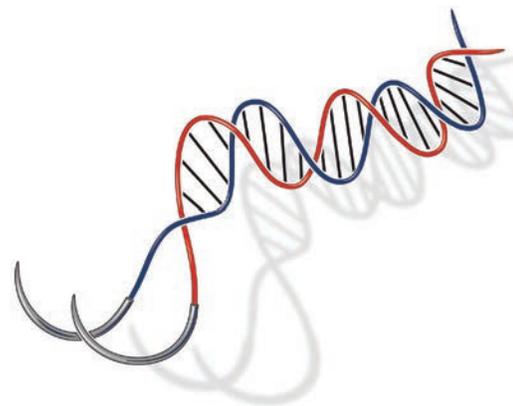
Dave finds great enjoyment in teaching. He served as the Coordinator for the Medical Imaging Interest Group and the 1T6 representative for the Cardiac Surgery Interest Group. His leadership role as the 2014 SEAD Director has been one of his most rewarding teaching experiences. Participants observe in the OR, have opportunities to speak with staff and residents, and practice skills such as plating fractures and simulating aortic valve replacements in pig hearts. He says the program helps solidify the intent to pursue a surgical specialty for some, and rule them out at an early stage for others. Dave is carrying forward research that was initiated by Nada Gawad, the founder of SEAD. The study will evaluate

the benefit of the SEAD program in terms of increasing participants' knowledge of surgical principles, understanding of a career in surgery, and basic surgery skills. It also follows SEAD participants through their CARMS match to evaluate the impact of SEAD on career choices.

Dave found Drs. Rutka, Christakis, and Kodama to be a wealth of support and guidance, and their insight into the planning to be central to the success of the program. "The mentorship I have received from leaders in my community has played an integral part in shaping the man I am today, and I strive to do the same for others". He has worked with Mike Wiley in the Anatomy Division doing pro-sections for examinations and study purposes. "Mike was a great friend and mentor. He taught me how to use surgical tools and quizzed me on my knowledge of anatomy". Dave is providing the occasional guidance to his successor, and he sees great potential for the SEAD program going forward. "Medical programs from Ottawa and Western have shown an interest. We're extremely fortunate to have some of the world's finest surgeons here in Toronto, who are happy to engage with students and volunteer their time for educational initiatives such as SEAD".

Dave's enthusiasm for enjoyable stress finds an outlet in surfing, by far his favourite past time. He is an avid sportsman who enjoys football, hockey, and exercise. He also enjoys travelling, having spent 2 months in South East Asia and visited several European countries. Coming up next is a ski trip to the Swiss Alps.

*M.M.*



## Fistbumps and Reflections on the Good Society



Martin McKneally

Fistbumps are celebratory greetings, expressing proper respect [“props”]. I have been using them ever since the SARS epidemic of 2003, in the hope of eliminating the handshake – a highly effective mode of passing around respiratory viruses and other pathogens. Ghareeb et al (1) in the Orthopedic Division at West Virginia University

recently made headlines in the lay media with their publication of a randomized trial demonstrating reduced colony counts from fist impressions on agar, compared to open hand impressions. Both participants in the study (there were only two) traversed the hospital opening doors and exchanging hand greetings with colleagues throughout the University Hospital. *Skeptical Scalpel* ([skepticalscalpel.blogspot.ca/](http://skepticalscalpel.blogspot.ca/) Aug 22, 2014), the anonymously blogging former surgical department chair, skeptically critiqued the study for its low N, confounding variation in sample area [fist prints are half the size of flat hands] and peculiar protocol. (“Surgeons and other healthcare workers don’t go around the hospital shaking hands with each other”). Nevertheless, the media found the study worth sensationalizing around the world, advancing my previously data-free hypothesis. Jim Rutka, undeterred by previous experience with controversial surgeon authors, has invited *Skeptical Scalpel* to speak at University Grand Rounds this year.

That said, let’s give a respectful Spotlight Fistbump to Bob Bell, setting an example for our trainees and staff by bringing surgical decisiveness and persistence to the Ministry of Health; to Mike Tymianski and Paul Walker for moving us forward on commercialization of surgical science; to Robin MacLeod for leading clinical programs and quality initiatives as vice president of Cancer Care Ontario; and to the recent recruits and new residents - the future of our department. A bump to

Jean Deslauriers, carrying the thoracic surgery tradition of Griff Pearson and Norm Bethune to China. And a bump to Zane Cohen. The perceptive veteran columnist Rick Salutin aptly described Zane in the *Toronto Star* as a hero who disdained the drama and attention of the media scrum when caring recently for a famous patient. After giving a clear and respectful clinical summary, his calm, polite “I don’t think I’m going to answer that question” was a teaching moment for us all, including the reporters.

I had the privilege this Fall to attend an Arden Seminar at Windsor Castle, a week of reflection and renewal focused on discussions based on the book ‘The Good Society’ by Ken Galbraith, the great Canadian-American economist and writer, and other readings ranging from John Donne to Eldridge Cleaver to ‘Orange is the New Black’. The concerns expressed by the predominantly American participants about their society were palpable and poignant. My descriptions of Canadian society, though far from utopian, were a source of envy. I was able to neutralize the misconception that medicine is socialized in Canada, and welcome migrants from the US if the election turned out as it subsequently did.

Finally, a word about Mentor, the eponymous Greek model for our Mentorship program described in this issue. Mentor taught Odysseus’s son Telemachus martial arts and other important skills, but it took Diana, the Goddess of the Hunt, to tell Telemachus to drive off the suitors who were importuning his mother Penelope for her hand in marriage, eating Odysseus’s food, and exploiting his land while he was away fighting the Trojans. We are fortunate to have an increasing number of thoughtful Dianas in our department – we are grateful that they are mentoring us toward a more holistic understanding of our mission, and a more humane version of our community.

*M.M.*

### REFERENCES

1. Ghareeb PA, et al. *Reducing pathogen transmission in a hospital setting. Handshake versus fist bump: a pilot study.* *J Hosp Infection* 2013; 85:321-323.

## BALFOUR LECTURE IN SURGICAL ETHICS

*Sponsored by the University of Toronto  
Department of Surgery*

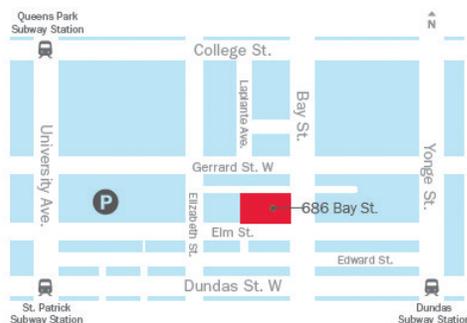
Charles Bosk, PhD, Professor of Sociology, Anesthesia and Critical Care, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Professor Bosk, a sociologist and ethics scholar spent eighteen month in greens on the surgery service of a major American teaching hospital. His analysis of the way surgeons think about the problem of error “Forgive and Remember”, is a classic of the surgical literature. His subsequent studies of checklists, guidelines, and tribal customs of professional control and moral identity will be the subject of this first annual Balfour Lecture.

Lecture and Reception on Thursday, February 12, 2015 5:00 PM in the CRL Event Room 1 in the Peter Gilgan Centre for Research Tower 686 Bay Street, Toronto, ON M5G 0A4.

### Location

Located within Toronto's Discovery District, the Gilgan Centre is 30 minutes from Pearson International Airport, 10 minutes from Billy Bishop Airport and within walking distance from both St. Patrick and Dundas subway stations.



For more information, contact [martin.mckneally@utoronto.ca](mailto:martin.mckneally@utoronto.ca) or [alina.gaspar@utoronto.ca](mailto:alina.gaspar@utoronto.ca).

## SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY JUNE 19, 2015

## INTENSIVE COURSE IN SURGICAL ETHICS

The 3rd Annual University of Toronto Intensive Course in Surgical Ethics is will be held downstairs from the Surgery office in the classroom 310 and adjacent breakout rooms of Rotman South, in the Stewart Building, 149 College St, Toronto.

The program is open to residents, fellows, staff surgeons, and colleagues of the Department of Surgery. The program is sponsored by the University of Toronto Department of Surgery, and will be accredited by the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada for residency training and continuing professional development.

For more information, contact [martin.mckneally@utoronto.ca](mailto:martin.mckneally@utoronto.ca) or [alina.gaspar@utoronto.ca](mailto:alina.gaspar@utoronto.ca).



*"He looks so natural."*

© Walsh / New Yorker Collection / [www.cartoonbank.com](http://www.cartoonbank.com)

## NEW STAFF



Tom Forbes with his wife Beth and their children Matt, Shannon, Sam and Hayley (northern Queensland, Australia, August 2011)

After an extensive and comprehensive search process, it is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of **Thomas Forbes** as the new University Division Chair of Vascular Surgery. Thomas' clinical practice will be based at Toronto General Hospital.

Dr. Forbes and his wife, Elizabeth Woodford MD, CCFP (University of Ottawa, Meds 1990) are thrilled to return home to Toronto with their four children, Matthew (3<sup>rd</sup> year Journalism at Ryerson), Shannon (2<sup>nd</sup> year Kinesiology at Dalhousie), Samantha (Grade 11, Lawrence Park) and Hayley (Grade 9, Lawrence Park). (For more information on Thomas, please visit our Announcements section, page 33)

*James Rutka,  
RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair,  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

Please join me in welcoming **Martin Gargan** to our faculty as the new head of Orthopaedics at the Hospital of Sick Children, effective September 2014.

Martin Gargan was educated at St Peter's School York as a York City Scholar. He went up to Oxford to study medicine in 1978 after a spell at the Webb School of California as an English Speaking Union Scholar. He graduated from Oxford in 1984 and completed junior doctor posts in Oxford, Liverpool and Bristol before being awarded his FRCS in 1988. In 1993 he was the



Dr. Gargan with his wife and the three Gargettes!

General Motors/Royal College of Surgeons Trauma Fellow in Detroit, Michigan. His postgraduate orthopaedic training was on the Oxford rotation but included a special fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children at Great Ormond Street before being appointed as a Consultant in Bristol in 1994. His main clinical and research interests are paediatric orthopaedics and trauma, and specifically surgery for hip dysplasia and cerebral palsy.

He is interested in education and was Programme Director of the South-West Deanery for six years (2002-2008) during which period the programme had 100% success rate in the FRCS (Tr & Orth) examination. He was an examiner for the Intercollegiate Specialty examination in trauma and orthopaedics (2001-2007) and also a visiting examiner for a number of other institutions. He was voted teacher of the year by the Bristol Medical School undergraduates in 2002 and was the BOTA Trainer of the Year Runner Up – 2008. He was BORG Trainer of the Year most recently in 2012

Martin enjoys all sports. He gained three Blues in rugby union at Oxford as well as representing the Barbarians FC. He continues to enjoy golf and plays off a handicap of 12. His other main interests are his family, he has three daughters – The Gargettes!

Welcome to Toronto Martin!

*Peter C Ferguson MD MSc FRCSC  
Albert and Temmy Latner Chair  
Division of Orthopaedic Surgery,  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*



Mark Camp

**Mark Camp** joined the Division of Orthopaedics at The Hospital for Sick Children as an Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto July 1, 2014. He received his MD from Queen's University and did his orthopaedic residency and an MSc. in Bioethics at U. of T. This was followed by a

Clinical Fellowship in Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia. Mark is the recipient of several academic awards. His main interest is in bioethics and paediatric orthopedics with a focus on cerebral palsy.

*James Rutka,  
RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair,  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*



Tim Dwyer

We are pleased to welcome Orthopedic surgeon, and Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy surgeon **Tim Dwyer** to our Women's College Hospital team.

Tim graduated from medical school at the University of Queensland in Australia in 1998. Undertaking orthopaedic training in both England

and Australia, he completed his training in Australia in 2009. Following this, Tim moved to Toronto for fellowship training in sports medicine and shoulder surgery at the University of Toronto.

Based at Women's College Hospital, with a cross appointment at Mt. Sinai Hospital, Tim's surgical practice encompasses open and arthroscopic surgery of the knee and shoulder. Dr Dwyer's primary research focus is on the assessment of surgical competence in Competency Based Medical Education, which is the basis of his PhD

thesis at IMS. He designs and validates assessment methods for Medical Expert and Intrinsic CanMEDS Roles, as well as novel methods used to assess acquisition of competence in surgical skill - research funded by grants from the American Orthopaedic Association.

Outside of work, Tim enjoys spending time with his partner Megan, and young children Sebastian (5) and Simone (2). Any spare time is spent playing hockey.

*John Semple,  
Surgeon-in-Chief, Women's College Hospital*



Elisa Greco and her husband Mike

It is with great pleasure that I announce the addition of **Elisa Greco** to the Division of Vascular Surgery at St. Michael's Hospital as a surgeon and Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto.

Elisa completed her residency in General Surgery, followed by a residency and fellowship in Vascular Surgery both through the University of Toronto. During this time, she completed a research fellowship at The Wilson Centre for Research Education, while also obtaining a Master's Degree in Education through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, at the University of Toronto.

Elisa's clinical focus is Renal Access, Wound care and Limb Salvage, open and endovascular intervention for peripheral arterial disease. Her research interests include vascular enhanced recovery, research in education, and wound management in diabetic foot ulcers.

To date, she is the recipient of several prestigious awards and grants. Most recently she was awarded the Society

of Clinical Vascular Surgery Fellows Meeting Grant, The American Hepato-Pancreatic-Biliary Association Travel Grant, the Postgraduate Medical Trainee Leadership Award, the Society for Vascular Surgery Resident Travel Scholarship, and the Best Research Paper Award, given by the Canadian Association of Continuing Health Education.

Already an instrumental member of our Division, we look forward to her contribution in our pursuit of clinical excellence, groundbreaking research and commitment to teaching.

*Mohammed Al-Omran*  
*Head, Division of Vascular Surgery*  
*St. Michael's Hospital*



Julie Hendrick Hallet

I am delighted to announce that **Julie Hendrick Hallet** has joined the Division of General Surgery at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in the Odette Cancer Centre. Julie grew up in Québec City where she completed her medical school and General Surgery residency at Université Laval. While enrolled in residency training, she entered the Masters in Clinical Epidemiology program at Université Laval, as part of the Clinical Investigator Program. She completed a two-year fellowship in Surgical Oncology at the University of Toronto during which she focused on hepato-biliary, pancreatic, and upper gastrointestinal malignancies.

Julie is currently obtaining additional training in advanced minimally invasive and robotic hepatic and pancreatic surgery at the *Institute of Research against Digestive Cancers (IRCAD)* in Strasbourg, France, from which she will return

in January 2015. During this time, she is also working on image-guided surgery research at the *Institut de Chirurgie Guidée par l'Image* (Institute for Image-Guided Surgery) from the *Institut Hospitalo-Universitaire de Strasbourg*.

Julie is appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto, and Associate Scientist at the Sunnybrook Research Institute. Her academic interests include health services population based research to examine processes, patterns of care, and outcomes of hepato-pancreato-biliary malignancies. She is focusing particularly on identifying and implementing enablers to timely diagnosis and effective management of Neuroendocrine Tumors, and the evaluation and implementation of pre-operative 3D planning and intra-operative navigation in hepatic and pancreatic surgery. Her clinical practice is devoted to hepato-biliary, pancreatic and upper gastrointestinal malignancies, with a focus on minimally invasive and image-guided therapies. She will also be taking an active role in the Susan Leslie Multidisciplinary Neuroendocrine Tumors Clinic.

*Natalie Coburn*  
*Head of the Division of General Surgery,*  
*Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre*



Patrick Henry with his wife Christina, and their two boys Finn and

The MSK Program and the Division of Orthopaedics at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre is pleased to welcome **Patrick Henry** to the University of Toronto Orthopaedic family, who will be focusing on upper extremity sports medicine

Patrick is from the southern Ontario town of Fort Erie. He attended the University of Western Ontario

where he graduated with honours in physics and philosophy as part of a combined major degree program. His medical degree was obtained at the University of Sydney Australia, and from there he travelled to sunny Newark New Jersey where he spent 5 years completing his orthopaedic residency training at UMDNJ - New Jersey Medical School. Upon graduation, he returned to Canada, completing an upper-extremity/trauma fellowship with Michael McKee, as well as an AANA accredited fellowship in shoulder arthroscopy and arthroplasty with Richard Holtby. He then commenced his graduate studies at the University of Toronto, ultimately successfully transferring into the IMS PhD program where he continues to focus on the management of massive tears of the rotator cuff.

Over the past few years, Patrick has won several awards and received recognition for both clinical and scholarly activities, including receiving a scholarship to join the AAOS Clinician Scholar Development Program, after being one of only a handful of other young investigators identified as being among the brightest future orthopaedic surgeon-scientists in North America.

His primary research interests involve identifying and investigating interventions that optimize functional outcomes in patients suffering from advanced soft tissue pathology in the shoulder.

While passionate about orthopaedics and excited to collaborate with the fantastic team at the University of Toronto, Patrick's greatest loves are his high-school sweetheart and wife, Christina, and their two young boys Finn and Hudson.

*Hans Kreder*  
*Head of Division of Orthopaedic Surgery,*  
*Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre*



Adena Scheer

It is with great pleasure that I announce the addition of **Adena Scheer** to the Division of General Surgery at St. Michael's Hospital as a Surgeon-Investigator and Surgical Oncologist.

Adena completed her general surgery residency at the University of Ottawa, followed by a Surgical Oncology Fellowship at the University of Toronto. As part of her fellowship she trained in Paris, France, gaining experience in oncoplastic breast surgery. Her area of clinical expertise is Breast Surgical Oncology and Oncoplastic Breast surgery. Her research focuses on decision support and knowledge translation, with a strong emphasis on enhancing shared decision making.

To date, she has received several grants including: The Sunnybrook General Surgery Associates Academic Enrichment Grant to investigate patient reported outcomes following post mastectomy breast reconstruction and The Physicians' Services Incorporated Grant for the evaluation of a rectal cancer decision aid and the factors influencing its implementation in to clinical practice. Adena was also the recipient of the 2011 Canadian Association of General Surgeons Resident Award for Teaching Excellence and is active in training and mentoring St. Michael's surgical residents and students.

In her free time, Adena enjoys spending time with her friends and family, trying new restaurants, and exploring new cities.

We are excited to welcome Adena to the team and especially look forward to contributions to the CIBC Breast Centre.

*Nancy Baxter*  
*Chief of the Division of General Surgery,*  
*St. Michael's Hospital*



Jory Simpson with his wife Ruthie, son Jonah and daughter Ayva

**Jory Simpson** obtained his undergraduate degree in Psychology from McGill University and medical degree at the University of British Columbia in 2006. He subsequently went on to complete his General Surgery residency training at the University of Toronto. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in 2011.

Dr. Simpson completed a Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation funded clinical fellowship at the University of Toronto in Breast Surgical Oncology. In addition, he is completing a Master's degree at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education with a focus on Adult Education and Community Development

Jory's academic and research interest is in improving breast cancer outcomes in disenfranchised populations. He also has a focus on quality improvement and surgical education. His clinical practice is focused on providing care to patients with both benign and malignant breast diseases. He was appointed Assistant Medical Director of the CIBC Breast Centre at St. Michael's Hospital.

He is joined by his wife Ruthie, son Jonah and daughter Ayva.

*Ori Rotstein,  
Surgeon-in-Chief, St. Michael's Hospital*



David Wasserstein with his wife Candice and daughters Ella (5) and Hayley (3)

The MSK Program and the Division of Orthopaedics at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre is pleased to welcome **David Wasserstein** to the University of Toronto Orthopaedic family.

David is a recent graduate of the University of Toronto Residency program in Orthopaedic Surgery. He has an MSc in basic science and is currently completing an MPH with a focus on epidemiology and injury prevention. To complete his clinical training, David undertook a fellowship in sports medicine at the University of Toronto, mentored by Paul Marks. In July 2014, David completed a second fellowship with the Sports Medicine and Shoulder service at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. At Vanderbilt, David has forged successful relationships with leaders of the Multi-center Orthopaedics Outcome Network (MOON), which studies clinical outcomes in sports medicine. David plans to incorporate Sunnybrook and the University of Toronto Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (UTOSM) program as the only Canadian MOON site, and utilize this connection as a key component of his academic focus in epidemiology, clinical outcomes and injury prevention.

David has been recognized for his achievements clinically and academically. This includes being awarded the Zane Cohen Fellowship Achievement Award among all fellows in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto in 2013, and the Herodicus Award from the Herodicus Society for the top paper at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine annual meeting in 2012. David is a co-author on more than 50 published abstracts from national and international meetings, 15 peer-reviewed publications and 7 book chapters, with many more projects under way.

David is excited to return to Toronto with his family – wife Candice and daughters Ella (5) and Hayley (3) – and join the SHSC orthopaedic division as a clinician-investigator with a focus on lower extremity sports medicine and soft tissue trauma. He will also be a full UTOSM member with cross-appointment to Women's College Hospital.

*Hans Kreder*  
*Head of Division of Orthopaedic Surgery,*  
*Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**IN MEMORIAM- DR. PETER ALLEN**  
(December 13, 1921 – November 17, 2014)



Peter Allen

It is with great sadness that we announce Dr. Peter Allen's passing away peacefully after a short illness at Ian Anderson House on November 17, 2014 at the age of 92.

Dr. Allen graduated from the University of Toronto Medical School in 1946. He completed a fellowship in General Surgery in 1953 at the

University of Toronto, and a fellowship in Thoracic Surgery at Brompton Hospital, London, England. He also completed a year of study in internal medicine in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Peter was a Professor in the UBC Faculty of Medicine and practiced at the Vancouver General Hospital as a cardiac surgeon for 36 years. He performed the first open heart procedure in British Columbia on October 29, 1957. Dr. Allen retired from surgical practice in 1993 as an Emeritus Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine.

His international contributions included performing the first coronary artery bypass surgery in Cardiff, Wales, and establishing the first Cardiac Surgical Centre

in Bhopal, India in 1977. It was there that he became a major influence in the practice of cardiac surgery and the teaching of medical and nursing students.

Dr. Allen was a member of "Pete's Club", a group of cardiac surgeons from the United Kingdom and Western Europe founded in 1959. This group held annual meetings which were committed to improving and developing innovations in the practice of cardiac surgery. He was also a member of the "Janes Surgical Group", which met for 36 consecutive years starting in 1953. The group provided a forum for the exchange of scientific knowledge and the opportunity to establish new relationships with surgeons in the international community. The last meeting of Pete's Club was held in 1989 at Peter's Oceanside home on Bowen Island, BC.

Peter was on the Board of Directors at the Ian Anderson House for the past 16 years and on the Grants Committee of the Oakville Community Foundation. In addition he spent several years on the Board of the Winston Churchill Society.

Dr. Allen's life was defined by eternal optimism, adventure, enthusiasm and incredible friendships. He was an avid historian with an unsurpassed thirst for knowledge and was also an accomplished athlete, tennis player, skier, fly fisherman and published author. His travels included all corners of the world, and especially all corners of Canada.

He was a fiercely loyal and proud Canadian. In recent years, he visited historical sites of WW1 and WW2, including the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and the Memorial at Juno Beach.

Peter was a generous kind man who will be deeply missed. His legacy is one which all his loving family and friends are committed to perpetuate.

In lieu of flowers we would appreciate donations to the Ian Anderson House [www.ianandersonhouse.com](http://www.ianandersonhouse.com).

(<http://glenoaks.sharingmemories.ca/site/DrPeterAllen.html>)

## IN MEMORIAM - DR. ROBERT KNOWLTON

April 4, 1934 - August 19, 2014



Robert J. Knowlton

It is with great sadness that I tell you all of Dr. Robert Knowlton's passing. Robert died this Tuesday after a brief illness. Many of us had the honour of working with, and being taught by him.

Robert practiced Plastic Surgery at St. Joseph's Health Center in Toronto since 1965. He recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto. He thoroughly enjoyed his work and his colleagues, so much so, that when he could no longer keep his own practice, he spent five years assisting in the OR. The year he got his fellowship, he also got his Pilot's License, and his property in Muskoka. He equally loved to spend time at the cottage with family and friends, and to travel to new places.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Joseph's Health Center Foundation or The Dorothy Ley Hospice.

*Craig Fielding*

## PROFESSOR MINGYAO LIU NAMED DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Professor Mingyao Liu has been appointed as Director, Institute of Medical Science beginning January 1, 2015. Professor Liu has been serving as Interim Director since July 1, 2014. Dr. Mingyao Liu is a Professor of Surgery at the Faculty of Medicine, University of



Mingyao Liu

Toronto, with cross-appointments in the Departments of Medicine and Physiology. He is a full member of the School of Graduate Studies at the University of Toronto and a Senior Scientist at the University Health Network, Toronto General Research Institute. Please help me congratulate Mingyao in attaining this key position.

*James Rutka, RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair,  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

## PETER FERGUSON APPOINTED AS ALBERT AND TEMMY LATNER CHAIR, DIVISION OF ORTHOPAEDICS, DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Peter Ferguson

I am delighted to inform you that Dr. Peter Ferguson has been appointed to the position of Chair of the Division of Orthopaedics. Peter has been the Interim Chair for the Division of Orthopaedics since the departure of Ben Alman last year to Duke University.

Peter received his MD from the University of Toronto in 1994 and earned his Master's degree from the University of Toronto in 1998. Following fellowship training in Toronto and at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Birmingham, England, Peter began his faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto in 2002. He became an Associate Professor in 2011. Peter has served as the Program Director in the Division of Orthopaedics since 2011.

Peter has published over 80 peer reviewed articles and 6 book chapters since his appointment. He is the recipient of numerous honours and teaching awards including the 2012 Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Medical Education – Development and Innovation; the Bruce Tovee Postgraduate Teaching Award; an Innovation in Surgical Education Award from the Association for Surgical Education; and the WT Aikins Faculty Teaching Award for Outstanding Teaching. He has been

invited to give numerous visiting lectureships across Canada, the United States and worldwide.

In recent years, Peter and colleagues in the Division of Orthopaedics established the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) for orthopaedics residency training which has now been approved by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and is being emulated across numerous other Divisions and Departments of Surgery and Medicine in Canada and the United States.

Please help me welcome Peter Ferguson into his new role as the Albert and Temmy Latner Chair in the Division of Orthopaedics.

*James T. Rutka, RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

### CAROL SWALLOW APPOINTED AS BERNARD AND RYNA LANGER CHAIR DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY, DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Carol Swallow

I am delighted to inform you that following an international search, Carol Swallow has been appointed as Chair of the Division of General Surgery, University of Toronto. She will hold the Bernard and Ryna Langer Chair effective immediately. Andy Smith who has held Langer Chair for over 5 years has

now taken on the role of Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Executive, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

Carol is presently Head of the Division of General Surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital. She was previously the inaugural Director of the University of Toronto General Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program, Chair of the Royal College General Surgical Oncology Specialty Committee and President of the Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology.

Carol received her MD from the University of

Toronto in 1984 and earned her PhD in cell biology from the University of Toronto in 1993. Following fellowship and postdoctoral training at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, Carol began her faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto in 1996. She became Full Professor in 2009.

Carol has published over 75 peer reviewed articles and 9 book chapters since her appointment. She is the recipient of numerous honours and teaching awards. She has been invited to give numerous visiting lectureships across Canada, the United States and worldwide. Carol is the recipient of several grants as Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator from CIHR, CRS, National Colorectal Cancer Campaign, OCRN, NCIC, PSI.

Please help me congratulate Carol Swallow in her new role as the Chair in the Division of General Surgery. And at the same time, I should like to acknowledge and thank Andy Smith for his outstanding stewardship and contributions to the Division of General Surgery these past many years.

*James T. Rutka, RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

### THOMAS FORBES APPOINTED AS CHAIR DIVISION OF VASCULAR SURGERY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Thomas Forbes

I am pleased to inform you that following an international search, Tom Forbes has been appointed as the University Chair of Vascular Surgery effective September 1, 2014. Tom Lindsay stepped down as Chair, after holding this position for 11 years.

Tom Forbes was previously the Chair of the Division of Vascular Surgery at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, The University of Western Ontario. He received his MD from the University of Toronto in 1990, then did his general surgery residency training and vascular surgery fellowship

at The University of Western Ontario. He began his faculty appointment as a Lecturer in the Department of Surgery at the University of Western Ontario in 1998 and progressed to the rank of Professor and Division Chair.

Tom has published over 100 peer reviewed papers, more than 50 invited commentaries and editorials, several book chapters and given over 100 invited lectures and visiting professorships. He is the recipient of numerous honours and teaching awards.

Tom is the former Vice-Chair of the Vascular Surgery Specialty Committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and is a member of the Editorial Boards of Vascular, and Vascular & Endovascular Surgery, and Associate Editor of the Journal of Vascular Surgery. He is Section Editor of Rutherford's Textbook of Vascular Surgery, 8th Edition.

Tom is a former Chair of the Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery Research Committee and was appointed President-Elect of the Society in 2013. He is also Chair of the Graduate Program Committee of the Master's degree in Surgery program at Western, and Chair of the Ontario CCN Vascular Surgery Working Group.

Please help me welcome Tom Forbes into his new role as Chair in the Division of Vascular Surgery. At the same time, we must thank Tom Lindsay for all of his major contributions to Vascular Surgery while he was in the role as Division Chair.

*James T. Rutka, RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

### MARTIN GARGAN APPOINTED DIVISION HEAD OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN



Martin Gargan

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Martin Gargan has joined the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery. He has been selected as the new Head of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children and Associate Professor at

the University of Toronto. He came to Toronto from the Bristol Royal Infirmary Bristol Hospital for Sick Children where he was a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon. (For more information on Martin, please visit our New Staff section, page 26)

*James Rutka RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair  
Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

### UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK (UHN) PROUDLY ANNOUNCES NEW CEO



Peter Pisters

University Health Network is delighted to announce that Dr. Peter Pisters has been appointed as President & CEO of University Health Network to join UHN as of January 1, 2015.

This will be a seamless transition from Dr. Robert Bell, who departed UHN to join the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Health. Currently, Dr. Peter Pisters is Vice President, Regional Care System at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Care Center in Houston, Texas. MD Anderson Cancer Center has been ranked as one of the top two cancer centres in the United States for the past 25 years.

Dr. Pisters shares the same passion for conquering cancer that we do. He is committed to superb clinical care, world-class research and a teaching environment that supports and encourages all members of healthcare community. He is an internationally recognized surgical oncologist with clinical experience and academic interest in gastrointestinal cancers and soft tissue sarcomas. He is a member of the editorial board of multiple surgery and oncology journals and has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications and 70 book chapters.

While all of those assets would make Dr. Pisters a perfect fit for the President & CEO chair, what is equally exciting is that Dr. Pisters is returning to his home country, having graduated from the University of Western Ontario in

London, Ontario with a BSc in Biology and his doctorate in medicine. “My wife Katherine and I are so excited to be returning to Canada,” commented Dr. Pisters. “We are fortunate to have the opportunity to join an organization that has so much history and momentum. I cannot begin to tell you the joy and excitement that we feel!”

Prior to joining MD Anderson, Dr. Pisters’s post-graduate training took place at New York University Medical Center, Bellevue Hospital Center and at Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York.

Dr. Peter Pisters and his wife Katherine, a renowned cancer specialist who will also join UHN family, are both experienced and passionate leaders.

*(Princess Margaret Foundation)*

## NEW APPOINTMENT, DIRECTOR OF THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) PORTFOLIO



Trevor Cuddy

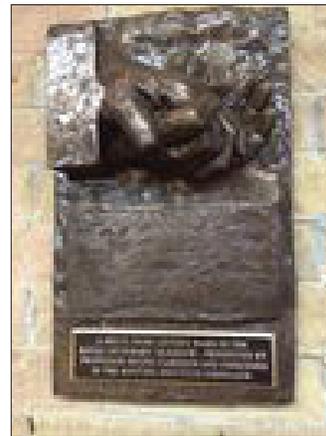
Trevor Cuddy has joined the University of Toronto taking on the role of Director of the CPD Portfolio beginning Monday, September 29. His duties are divided between the Standardized Patient Program and CPD.

Trevor brings with him over 20 years of leadership experience in various roles at educational institutions including York University, Concordia, Queen’s and now returns to the University of Toronto. His education along with his experience has helped form his leadership style: one that is inclusive, collaborative and goal-oriented. He has a Master’s Degree in Education from UofT/OISE and a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts degree from Queen’s.

Trevor is looking forward to the variety of the work he will do with the CPD portfolio and getting to know the team. He hopes to bring his education and experience into this environment to make a difference and contribute to its growth and successes.

Beyond working life, Trevor has two well-loved sharpeis, enjoys snowboarding and weekends at the family cottage. His favourite places to visit are Barbados, South Africa, and the Turkish city of Istanbul.

## DARRELL OGILVIE-HARRIS CREATES SCULPTURE OF BRICK FROM LISTER’S WARD FOR NEW DEPARTMENTAL BOARDROOM



Sculpture of Brick from Lister’s Ward

Darrell Ogilvie-Harris has created and generously donated a facsimile of the brick that was embedded above the fireplace in the Departmental Offices at the Banting Institute. The brick was a gift from Professor Irving H. Cameron to the Department of Surgery from Lister’s Ward in the Royal Infirmary,

Glasgow. Darrell’s bronze sculpture depicts the brick, above which there are the hands of a surgeon which are recessed into the sculpture. This beautiful bronze sculpture is now proudly displayed in the Departmental Office Boardroom, next to the official portrait of Joseph Lister which was brought to the Stewart Building from the Banting Institute.

## 2014 CHARLES TATOR HONORARY LECTURESHIP

The 2014 Charles Tator Honorary Lectureship was held on September 19 at the Canadian Surgical Forum in Vancouver. UHN Past President and CEO Dr. Robert Bell delivered the Lecture, entitled “A New Model of Spine Care”, which highlighted innovations championed by Dr. Raj Rampersaud and the Inter-professional Spine Assessment and Education Clinics (ISAEC). The Lectureship was established in 2013 by the AANS/CNS in recognition of the career and achievements of Dr. Charles Tator (Toronto Western Hospital).

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES IN THE DIVISION OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

We are delighted to announce the following administrative changes in the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Toronto:

New Division Chair	<b>Peter Ferguson</b>
Division Vice Chair of Research	<b>Albert Yee</b>
New Division Fellowship Director	<b>Lucas Murnaghan</b>
New Program Director	<b>Markku Nousiainen</b>
New Associate Program Director	<b>Veronica Wadey</b>
New Associate Program Director	<b>Jeremy Hall</b>

## HISTORIC \$130 MILLION GIFT TO ESTABLISH THE TED ROGERS CENTRE FOR HEART RESEARCH

The Hospital for Sick Children, the University Health Network and the University of Toronto have announced the creation of the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research, funded by an unprecedented donation of \$130 million from the Rogers family—the largest monetary gift ever made to a Canadian health-care initiative.

## SIMULATION CENTRE AT ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL

**Simulation Centre at St. Michael's Hospital** received a 5 year accreditation by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons.

## AWARDS/HONOURS/ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Mark Peterson** (CardSurg) and his team successfully placed a Fortis trans-catheter mitral valve in a patient, the first implant in North America and the 5<sup>th</sup> implant in humans. The valve is indicated for patients with severe native mitral valve regurgitation in high risk patients who are not good candidates for open surgical treatment.

**Sandra de Montbrun** (GenSurg) received a 1 year grant from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for her project “Development and Evaluation of an Objective Assessment of Technical Skill for Graduating General Surgery Residents”.

**Teodor Grantcharov** (GenSurg) was the keynote speaker at the Surgical Skills Summit hosted by McMaster University Health Sciences.

**Anand Ghanekar** (GenSurg) and co-investigator John Dick (Molecular Genetics) received a 2-year renewal of their Operating Grant from the Cancer Research Society entitled “Phenotypic and Transcriptional Characterization of Tumor-Initiating Cells in Primary Human Hepatocellular Carcinoma.”

**John Hagen** (GenSurg) is the recipient of the Mentor of the Year Award, Region 3 from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

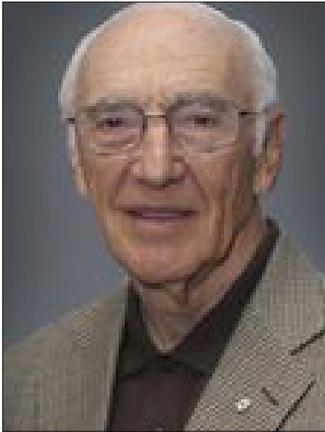
**Yunni Jeong** (GenSurg, PGY 1) was one of the recipients of the 1<sup>st</sup> place in a basic suturing competition at the second PREP camp program for all incoming PGY 1 residents.



Paul Karanicolas

**Paul Karanicolas** (GenSurg) is the recipient of a Roscoe Reid Graham Scholarship in Surgical Science from the Department of Surgery. Paul also received a PSI grant to support his multicenter randomized trial examining the impact of tranexamic acid on bleeding during liver resection.

**Bernard Langer** (GenSurg) has been inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame for his transformative contributions to health in Canada and the world. He is recognized as a true innovator, a gifted surgeon and respected teacher. Considered a global pioneer of hepatobiliary/pancreatic (HPB) surgery, he developed a



Bernard Langer

world leading academic HPB and liver transplant service while Head of the Division of Surgery at Toronto General Hospital. As Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Toronto, Bernie established the first surgical full time practice plan in Canada to foster research and education, and developed the Surgeon

Scientist Program, now a widely recognized and emulated model for training academic surgeons in Canada and in other countries. This program and its graduates constitute one of his enduring legacies. He was also instrumental in the creation of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Clinician Investigator Program and in the formation of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute. Dr. Langer will be honoured at a ceremony on April 23, 2015 at The Metropolitan Entertainment Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**Veronica Liang** (GenSurg) was awarded the *Joseph M. West Family Memorial Fund* and the *Heidi Sternbach* Scholarship from the Postgraduate Awards Committee at the Faculty of Medicine

**David Parente** (GenSurg, PGY 1) was one of the 1<sup>st</sup> place recipients in a basic suturing competition at the second PREP camp program for all incoming PGY 1 residents.

**Chethan Sathya** (GenSurg) was awarded the Edward Christie Stevens Fellowship and the Joseph M West Family Memorial Fund from the Postgraduate Awards Committee at the Faculty of Medicine

**Jory Simpson** (GenSurg) is the recipient of this year's grant for Achieving Excellence in Cancer Care at St. Michael's Hospital for the project – *A Multidisciplinary Approach to Reducing Re-excision Lumpectomies in Breast-Conserving Surgery*, published in the *J Breast Cancer*. 2014 Jun; 17(2):107-12.

**Homer Tien** (GenSurg) was appointed as the Ornge Chief Medical Officer. Ornge, Ontario is the provider of air ambulance and related services a. An award-winning physician, administrator and educator, Dr. Tien is the Medical Director for the Tory Regional Trauma Centre, Canada's largest trauma unit. He is also a Colonel in the Canadian Forces, having served as a Staff General Surgeon and Medical Officer in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Myanmar and the Golan Heights. As Ornge's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Tien will be responsible for providing strategic guidance and operational leadership to all clinical affairs of the organization including the base hospital, medical research, professional practice, corporate quality and patient safety.

**Vivek Bodani** (NeurSurg, PGY4) received a 2014 Canada Graduate Scholarship from the CIHR and the Edward Christie Stevens Fellowship, the Chisholm Memorial Fellowship and the Nellie L. Farthing Fellowship from the University of Toronto.

**David Cadotte** (NeurSurg, PGY4) received the 1<sup>st</sup> place Gallie Bateman Award, for the top paper presented by a Surgeon-Scientist Program trainee in the Department of Surgery.

David also successfully defended his PhD thesis "*Development of novel magnetic resonance imaging techniques to evaluate plasticity in the injured human cervical spinal cord*" (supervisor Michael Fehlings).

**Sunit Das** (NeurSurg) is the American College of Surgeons' 2014 Franklin Martin Faculty Research Fellow. This two-year fellowship will help Sunit develop new research programs. His clinical and research interests focus on primary cancers of the brain.

**Karen Davis** (NeurSurg) was awarded the Mel Silverman Mentorship Award by the Institute of Medical Science (IMS) at the University of Toronto. This award is presented to an IMS graduate faculty member who has served as an outstanding mentor and role model for graduate students, and who has contributed in a significant way to the IMS graduate program.

Karen is also a 2013-2014 Mayday Fellow. As part of the Mayday Pain & Society Fellowship, she will further her training as a pain management expert by learning to

more effectively communicate her work, raise awareness, and improve treatment of acute and chronic pain.

Karen is a co-applicant on a \$150,000 grant awarded by the Weston Brain Institute for the project entitled “*Tau Ligand for the Diagnosis of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy in Retired CFL Athletes.*”

Karen Davis's TED-Ed education video entitled: "How does your brain respond to pain?" went online on June 2, 2014 and has been viewed more than 400,000 times on YouTube You can view her talk at: <http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-does-your-brain-respond-to-pain-karen-d-davis>.

Karen Davis has been elected to the position of Vice-Chair of the CIHR INMHA IAB (Institute Advisory Board of the Institute of Neuroscience, Mental Health and Addiction).

**James Drake** (NeurSurg) has received a CIHR grant for his project “*Injectable functional tissues: a perfect marriage of tissue engineering and minimally invasive delivery.*”

**Michael Fehlings** (NeurSurg) has been named Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Fellows are nominated for exceptional achievements through a body of publications, intellectual endeavours or creative activities exhibiting original contributions in the arts, humanities or sciences, as well as in public life. He is joining an elite group of experts who are considered the best in their respective fields.

**Michael** has also been elected to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS). Fellows elected to the Academy are recognized by their peers nationally and internationally for their contributions to the promotion of health science.

Michael Fehlings has been awarded a grant from the Wings for Life Spinal Cord Research Foundation for 2014-15 for his project entitled “*An examination of the therapeutic impact of human induced pluripotent stem cell derived neural precursor cells in cervical spinal cord injury.*”

Michael received a 2-year grant from the Rick Hansen Institute for his project “*Therapeutic potential of human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived neural precursor cells in cervical spinal cord injury.*”

Michael Fehlings has been awarded a 2014-15 Spine Section – Post-Residency Clinical Fellowship Grant from the American Association of Neurological Surgeons / Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation.

Michael Fehlings was awarded a grant from the Physicians' Services Incorporated Foundation for 2014-16 for his project “*Preventing neurological decline in cervical spondylotic myelopathy with intravenous IgG.*”

Michael Fehlings has accepted a position on the Advisory Board of *Cell Reprogramming and Therapeutics*, a company headed by Arshak Alexanian, Associate Professor at Medical College of Wisconsin.

Michael Fehlings was awarded a 2014 Outstanding Paper Award for Surgical Science from The Spine Journal and the North American Spine Society (NASS) for his work on “*A clinical prediction model to assess surgical outcomes in patients with cervical spondylotic myelopathy: Internal and external validation using the prospective multicenter AOSpine North American and International Datasets of 743 patients.*” This paper was presented as a podium presentation on November 13, 2014 at the NASS Annual meeting and will be published in an upcoming issue of The Spine Journal.

**Michael Fehlings** and **Steven Lewis** (NeurSurg) were listed as two of America's top spine surgeons in *Orthopedics This Week, September 9, 2014; 10(28):8-11.*

**Fred Gentili** (NeurSurg) became on the Hudson Chair in Neurooncology at Toronto Western Hospital.

**Mojgan Hodaie** (NeurSurg) is the Canadian lead of the Genetics of Trigeminal Neuralgia, a multicenter study spearheaded by OHSU, Oregon Health and Science University.

Mojgan was also invited to serve on the Health Professional Awards - Fellowships committee for 2014-2015.

**George Ibrahim** (Neursurg, PGY4) won the annual Morley Prize competition for best resident research paper presentations.

**George** also won the Warren Ho Humanitarian Award, which honours the ideal role model for neurosurgery residents through excellence in clinical care and research, and demonstrated humanitarianism.

**George Ibrahim** and **Shobhan Vachrajani** (NeurSurg, PGY5) won the 2013 K.G.McKenzie Prizes in Clinical Neuroscience Research, the most prestigious resi-

dent awards in our discipline in Canada. Toronto Neurosurgery continued its historically strong performance in this competition, having won 22 of the 37 McKenzie Prizes (59.5%) awarded since 2000.

**Abhaya Kulkarni** (NeurSurg) won the Alan Hudson Faculty Teaching Award, in recognition of contributions to teaching medical students, fellow residents and nurses.

**Nir Lipsman** (NeurSurg) was awarded the 2014 CSCI/CIHR Resident Research Prize for “*Subcallosal cingulate deep brain stimulation for treatment-refractory anorexia nervosa*”.

**Andres Lozano** (NeurSurg) has been appointed to the rank of “University Professor”. This is the most prestigious and distinguished rank at the University of Toronto. He is the first neurosurgeon at the University of Toronto to be granted the distinction, which recognizes the University’s most outstanding scholars. Andres now joins the notable ranks of Tirone David, and Robert Salter as surgeons who have received University Professor Status. He was nominated for his pioneering work in the mapping of new brain areas and circuits underlying neurological and psychiatric diseases, and the translation of these discoveries into the clinical application of deep brain stimulation for Parkinson’s disease, treatment-resistant depression and Alzheimer’s disease.

Andres Lozano received the 2014 Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) Innovations Award, in recognition of outstanding and innovative research in the basic or clinical fields of neuropsychopharmacology.

Andres was also identified by Thomson Reuters Essential Science Indicators as a Highly Cited Researcher (<http://highlycited.com/>) and as the most highly cited neurosurgeon in the world for the eleven-year period from 2002 to 2012. He was also included on the Thompson Reuters ScienceWatch 2014 World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds listing. <http://sciencewatch.com/sites/sw/files/sw-article/media/worlds-most-influential-scientific-minds-2014.pdf>

Andres was also invited to serve on the Jonas Salk Research Awards Committee and the Margolese National Brain Prize Committee.

**Todd Mainprize** (NeurSurg) received the Marvin Tile Distinguished Service Award at Sunnybrook Hospital, given to an individual who has contributed significantly in the areas of teaching, research and professional activity within the Department of Surgery.

PGY4 resident **Alireza Mansouri**, with **Gelareh Zadeh** (NeurSurg) and the Neurofibromatosis Society of Ontario (NFSO) have established a new clinical research registry initiative for the province-wide neurofibromatosis program. The NFSO targets the needs and concerns of patients with neurofibromatosis type 1 and 2 in Ontario.

PGY4 Residents **Alireza Mansouri**, **Allan Martin** and **Anick Nater** (NeurSurg) won Neurosurgery’s journal club competition to have their critique featured in the February issue of Neurosurgery. They faced stiff competition from several other leading institutions across the US. For the quarterly competition, residents submit a structured critique of a specified article.

**Allan Martin** also received the Edward Christie Stevens Fellowship and the Joseph M. West family Memorial Fund Scholarship from the University of Toronto

**Safraz Mohammed** (NeurSurg, PGY5) received the Alan Hudson Resident Teaching Award.

**Ivan Radovanovic** (NeurSurg) was awarded a \$25,000 USD grant from the Brain Aneurysm Foundation for the project “Imaging Genomics of Unruptured Intracranial Aneurysms”. Co-PIs on the project are Michael Tymianski, Timo Krings, Danny Mandell and Vitor Mendes Pereira.

**James Rutka** (NeurSurg) received a grant from Meagan’s Walk for his project entitled “*Developing an Atypical Teratoid Rhabdoid Tumour Preclinical Model*”.

**Julian Spears** (NeurSurg) has been appointed as Term Chair, Cerebrovascular and Brain Tumour Surgery at St. Michael’s Hospital and the University of Toronto.

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons/ Congress of Neurosurgeons Joint Section on Neurotrauma and Critical Care has named a lectureship after Professor **Charles Tator** (NeurSurg). He has developed experimental models of spinal cord injury and new ways to evaluate injuries. His recent research has demonstrated evidence of increased spinal cord injuries due to sports and recreation trauma. Charles is also President of Think First Canada/Penser d'Abord, an injury prevention Foundation.

**Charles Tator** (NeurSurg) was one of the two recipients of the Health Research Foundation Medal of Honour for his outstanding research and leadership.

**Michael Taylor** and **Peter Dirks** (NeurSurg) were awarded the Garron Family Chairs in Childhood Cancer Research at the Hospital for Sick Children

**Michael Tymianski** (Neurosurgery) is the recipient of a \$6.6 million grant from Brain Canada for his work "*The Frontier Trial – Field Randomization of NA-1 Treatment in Early Responders.*" NA-1 will be administered by paramedics in the FRONTIER field program that begins next year in Toronto, Peel Region and Vancouver. The program was featured in a Globe and Mail article that can be accessed at: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health-and-fitness/health/promising-canadian-stroke-drug-receives-large-research-grant/article20569436/#dashboard/follows/>.

**Taufik Valiante** and **Andres Lozano** (NeurSurg), along with a team of five other multidisciplinary researchers (including lead PI Dr. Kari Hoffman, York University), were awarded a three-year \$1.5M grant from Brain Canada's Multi-Investigator Research Initiative (MIRI) program for their project entitled "*Modulating Memory Circuits: Focal Deep Brain Stimulation Treatments to Improve Medial Temporal Lobe Function*". The project received matching funds from the Krembil Foundation and is one of eleven grants awarded by MIRI this year.

**Gelareh Zadeh** (NeurSurg) won the 2014 Wightman-Berris Academy Postgraduate Education Teaching Excellence Award. The Award recognizes teachers whose outstanding skills have been identified by their students.

Gelareh also won 2014 Bernard Langer Surgeon-Scientist Award, presented annually to an outstanding graduate of the Surgeon-Scientist Training Program in the Department of Surgery at University of Toronto who shows the greatest promise for a career in academic surgery.

Gelareh Zadeh has been invited to serve on the Executive Committee of the Tumor Section of the AANS for the 2013-15 and 2015-17 terms.

**Gelareh** also received the Ross Fleming Surgical Educator Award which honours excellence in undergraduate or postgraduate teaching at the University of Toronto.

**Justin Chang** (Ortho PGY 1) was one of the recipients of the 1<sup>st</sup> place in a basic suturing competition at the second PREP camp program for all incoming PGY 1 residents.



Tim Daniels

**Tim Daniels** (OrthoSurg) was the recipient of 2 prestigious international awards at the Combined Meeting of International Federation of Foot and Ankle Societies (IFFAS) and American Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Society (AOFAS) in Chicago, September

19-21, 2014. This meeting drew record attendance and record number of abstract submissions – the largest foot and ankle meeting ever held in the history of the AOFAS and IFFAS. He won the *Takakura Award* for Best Clinical Paper entitled "*Multi-centered study titled Patient Expectation and Satisfaction as Measures of Surgical Outcomes in End-Stage Ankle Arthritis: A Prospective Cohort Study of Ankle Joint Replacement vs Ankle Fusion*". The IFFAS meeting is Triennial, comprised of world's leading Foot and Ankle Societies. The *Takakura Award* is a true testament to Tim's reputation on an international stage. This is the second time that he has been awarded this prize since 2005.

Tim was also awarded the *Roger Mann Award* for Best Clinical Paper presented at the Annual AOFAS 2014 meeting for a paper entitled "*Multi-Centered*

*Prospective Comparison of PROMIS Physical Function CAT to Traditional Instruments for Foot and Ankle Disorders*". This is the third time that Tim has won this prestige award - first ever to win this award three times (2007, 2012 and 2014).

**Oleg Safir** (OrthoSurg) has won the 2014 Award for Excellence in Development and Innovation in Postgraduate Education. The award honours faculty members who administer training programs for medical residents, use innovative teaching and research methods, and serve as mentors. Oleg is Director of Mount Sinai's D.H. Gales Surgical Skills Centre.

**John Wedge** (OrthoSurg), former McLaughlin Chair of the Department of Surgery, has received the degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) honoris causa from the University of Saskatchewan for contributions to Orthopaedic surgery internationally.

**Katie Armstrong** (PlasSurg) was awarded the American Telemedicine Association Student Paper Award for her paper "*Breast Reconstruction Follow-up Using QoC Mobile App: A Societal Economic Evaluation*", with co-authors John Semple and Peter Coyte at the recent meeting in Baltimore.

**Heather Baltzer** (PlasSurg) received the Educational Foundation Award for the best Epidemiology & Biostatistics Presentation by a resident for her paper "*A mixed-methods assessment of direct and indirect patient costs following hand trauma*", with co-authors M. Roy, C. Novak, S. McCabe, P. Binhammer and H. von Schroeder.

Heather also received the 2014 GAM Canada Scholarship Award. Heather will be starting a 12 month fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester MN in July.

**Paul Binhammer** (PlasSurg) was awarded the 2014 Arnis Freiberg Faculty Teaching Excellence Award.

**Greg Borschel** (PlasSurg) is the new research director in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

**Joel Fish** (PlasSurg) was awarded the Chair's Award for 2014 from the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive

Surgery at the University of Toronto. As Joel is stepping down as the Division Research Director, this token of thanks is meant to acknowledge the hard work and efforts Joel has put forth to advance the quality of the resident research for the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery over the past 8 years.

Joel Fish and the SickKids Burn Team received a Fire Safety Award from the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council at a ceremony on June 19, 2014 in Toronto. The annual Fire Safety Awards recognize outstanding contributions to fire protection and prevention in Ontario. "*There is no question that the professional and enthusiastic support of the SickKids Burn Prevention Outreach Team has helped to increase public awareness about the risk of burns and scalds,*" said Ted Wieclawek, Chair, Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council. "The result of their efforts is a safer environment at home, work and play for people of all ages." The SickKids Burn Prevention Outreach Team's ongoing commitment to fire safety includes public awareness campaigns with literature, posters, flyers and website postings. Each year during Fire Prevention Week, the Team participates in Toronto Fire Services' open house, staffing an engaging and interactive display to promote fire safety, burn prevention and treatment. They have teamed up with Toronto Fire Services in other safety campaigns such as *Cool Your Coals*, to promote camp fire safety.

Researcher, Director of St. John's rehab program **Manuel Gomez** (PlasSurg) was recognized as one of the 10 most influential Hispanics by Canada's Minister of Revenue. Since 2007, eighty Hispanics from eight provinces and 17 countries of origin have been selected. The "10 most" has had a presence in Montreal, Saskatoon, Calgary, Ottawa, Vancouver and Toronto. His research focus is on burn injury rehabilitation and burn prevention. Manuel has published more than 70 articles in scientific peer-reviewed journals and was a member of a committee of the Canadian Standards Association to develop standards to prevent hot tap water scald burns.

This past year, Manuel also received the Chief Public Safety Officer's Special Recognition Award for his contributions to electrical safety and to the care of survivors of electrical injuries.



Siba Haykal and Christopher Forrest

**Siba Haykal** (PlasSurg) was presented with the Hugh G. Thomson Humanitarian Award, given to the trainee in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery who best emulates collegiality, honesty, generosity, mentorship and humanitarianism.

**Steve McCabe** (PlasSurg) received the 2014

William K. Lindsay Faculty Research Mentor Award, in recognition of his significant contributions to the nurturing of plastic surgery residents' research.

**Christine Novak** (PlasSurg) was one of the recipients of a PSF/AAHS Combined Pilot Research Grant for her project "*Botulinum Toxin Type A for Cold Sensitivity after Hand Trauma*" (Co-PIs: Steven McCabe and Jamil Ahmad).

**Kathy Pavlovic** (Admin, PlasSurg) has completed the requirements for Certification as a Canadian Administrator in Medical Education.

**Jennica Platt** (PlasSurg) was one of the recipients of the PSF Research Grants for her study "*Nipple Delay Prior to Nipple Sparing Mastectomy: A Pilot RCT Program*" (Co-PI: Toni Zhong, Stefan Hofer and Tulin Cil).

**Laura Snell** (PlasSurg) was awarded the 2014 CSPA Outcomes Grant for her study "*A Novel Touch-Based Educational Module for Intraoperative Training in Plastic Surgery*".

**Kyle Wanzel** (PlasSurg) received the "Above and Beyond" award to acknowledge the work done by a division member over a sustained period that contributes in a significant and meaningful way to the fabric of the division. Kyle has worked tirelessly to organize the resident seminar series and as the Associate Program Director.

**Ron Zuker** (PlasSurg) received the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award at the Canadian Society of Plastic

Surgeons (CSPA) annual meeting. This award honors an established plastic surgeon who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession and to the CSPA.

**Marcelo Cypel** (ThorSurg) is the recipient of a Roscoe Reid Graham Scholarship in Surgical Science from the Department of Surgery. This award provides salary support to a junior clinician-scientist who undertakes a major time commitment to scholarly work and who shows evidence of those qualities so greatly admired by the late Dr. Graham – namely industry, enthusiasm, intellectual integrity and the promise of sound judgment in clinical academic practice



Shaf Keshavjee receiving the Honorary Doctor of Science Degree at Queens University

**Shaf Keshavjee** (ThorSurg) was named fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Fellows are nominated for exceptional achievements through a body of publications, intellectual endeavours or creative activities exhibiting original contributions in the arts, humanities or sciences, as well as in public life. He is joining an elite group of experts who are considered the best in their respective fields.

**Shaf** also received the Honorary Doctor of Science Degree at Queens University.

**Kazuhiro Yasufuku** (ThorSurg) received a 2 year CCSRI Innovation Grant Award, along with his co-investigators, for their project entitled "*Image-Guided Localization Platform for Minimally Invasive Lung Surgery*".

**Laurence Klotz** (UrolSurg) won the Society of Urologic Oncology's 2014 Medal for his contributions to the field of urologic oncology. Laurence is an expert on prostate cancer and was an early champion of active surveillance for this disease. He is the founding Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Urology, and Chief of Urology at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

**Ron Kodama** (UrolSurg) is this year's recipient of the Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Medical Education Teaching Performance, Mentorship, and Advocacy. He is being honoured for his outstanding commitment to training residents and fellows.

**Robert Nam** (Urology) and colleagues are the recipients of a \$2.5 million NIH R01 grant for their project entitled "*Dynamic, multi-cohort prediction modeling of prostate biopsy outcome*".

**Andrew Dueck** (VascSurg) has been appointed as Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery representative for the Global Societal Guidelines Committee for Peripheral Arterial Disease

**Thomas Forbes** (VascSurg) has been appointed President of Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery

**Graham Roche-Nagle** (VascSurg) has been appointed Research Chair by the Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery

**Giuseppe Papia** (VascSurg) has been appointed Education Chair by the Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery

**Wayne Johnston** (VascSurg)'s paper "*Canadian Aneurysm Study*" was listed in the Top 50 influential papers in the September issue of the Journal of Vascular Surgery

**Douglas Wooster** (VascSurg) is the recipient of the David Fear Fellowship. Douglas's research interests include vascular laboratory applications, medical education, and patient safety. During his fellowship, he will develop an electronic vascular ultrasound curriculum.

## 2014 CIHR OPERATING GRANT RECIPIENTS

I am pleased to report the results of the most recent CIHR operating Grants Competition and how well our faculty did. Across the entire competition, 400 grants were funded, but this was only possible with an across-the-board cut of 26.8%. As there are some uncertainties about the future of grant funding through national agencies such as the CIHR, at this time I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our faculty, listed below, for their success at the CIHR grants panel from the March 2014 competition. Please help me congratulate the following surgeon-scientists, -investigators, and scientists:

### **Michael Fehlings**

*"Mechanistic insights and neuroprotective approaches to enhance recovery in age related spinal cord degeneration"*  
5 years; \$569,330

### **Sevan Hopyan; Chi-Chung Hui**

*"Genetic control of mammalian limb pattern"*  
5 years; \$820,632

### **Ian D. McGilvray; Warren C. Chan;**

### **Markus Selzner; Nazia Selzner**

*"Nanoparticle targeting of the liver"*  
3 years; \$483,813

### **Robin S. McLeod; Mary-Anne W. Aarts; John C. Marshall; Stuart A. McCluskey; Andrew M. Morris; Allan Okrainec; Ori D. Rotstein; Ian G. Stiell**

*"Development of a decision rule for discharging patients following colorectal surgery based on post-operative serum C reactive protein and/or procalcitonin levels"*  
1 year; \$358,402

### **David R. Urbach; Nancy N. Baxter; Chaim M. Bell; Anna R. Gagliardi; George A. Tomlinson**

*"The inference from observational research methods (INFORM) Project"*  
4 years; \$501,723

### **Thomas Willett; Eli D. Sone**

*"Engineering of irradiation-sterilized skeletal allograft for improved clinical outcomes"*  
1 year; \$100,000

*James T. Rutka,*

*RS McLaughlin Professor and Chair*

*Department of Surgery, University of Toronto*

The Deadline for the next Surgery Newsletter is May 15, 2014. All members and friends of the Department are invited to submit items, articles, pictures, ideas or announcements.

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Please provide your name and telephone number so that we may contact you if we have any questions.

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