

# DCNS Neuro News

Department of Clinical Neurosciences

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Alberta Health  
Services



FACULTY OF  
MEDICINE | UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

CLINICAL  
**NEURO**  
SCIENCES

CALGARY CANADA

Welcome to Dr. Gillian Simonett



Dr. Gillian Simonett is a new physiatrist in the division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at The Department of Clinical Neurosciences (DCNS). Originally from Vancouver, B.C., Dr. Simonett completed her residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at The University of British Columbia.

During her residency, Dr. Simonett also completed a Masters Degree in Health Sciences with a focus on clinical epidemiology. Her main research interest is in spinal cord injury related pain.

Dr. Simonett says it was the research focus at DCNS that piqued her interest in making the move east to Calgary. "The set-up here for support in research and education was very appealing to me as someone who is still in the early stages of my career," she says.

[see more](#)

Dr. Nathalie Jette gives "Eyes High on Research" lecture at The University of Calgary



Dr. Nathalie Jette knew from the time she was three years old that she wanted to be a doctor. When her grandmother developed Alzheimer's disease when she was a young girl, her next goal was to find a cure for it. Eventually, her research into Alzheimer's disease led her to working in Dr. Margaret Fahnestock's laboratory at McMaster University where she developed an interest in epilepsy.

Dr. Jette shared this insight into her career as part of the Eyes High on Research lecture series at The University of Calgary on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Jette's talk emphasized the importance for research to lead to direct application. She says the Goethe quote, "Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do," serves as an inspiration to her.

[see more](#)

In Memoriam – Dr. Peter Seland, MD

Dr. Peter Seland passed away on March 29, 2013 in Kelowna, B.C. Dr. Seland was the Director of the Division of Neurology at the Calgary General Hospital and one of the key founding fathers of the Department of Clinical Neurosciences. He also served as the Director of the University of Calgary Multiple Sclerosis Research Clinic.

From 1981 to 1992, Dr. Seland was as an associate professor and then a professor in The Department of Clinical Neurosciences. In 1992, he moved to Kelowna to start an MS clinic and a community based neurology practice. In 1999, he joined the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia as Deputy Registrar (Ethics). Our sincerest condolences go out to Dr. Seland's family during this difficult time.

[Dr. Seland's Obituary](#)

## Announcements



Rod Mohr, Zone Manager, and Dr. Rajiv Midha, Head, are pleased to welcome Ninfa Fernandes as an administrative assistant. Ninfa comes to us with extensive experience in supporting department heads. She supported Dr. John Conly, Head of Internal Medicine from 2006 to 2010, and Drs. Dennis Kreptul and Cathy MacLean in Family Medicine since 2011. She was the Division of Neonatology secretary from 2004 to 2006. From 1992 to 1996, she supported the Director General of Medical Affairs, Ministry of Health in the Sultanate of Oman.

Ninfa starts her new position on April 29th. Please welcome her to the department when you drop by!

## Upcoming Events

Developmental Neurosciences Grand Rounds - Alberta Children's Hospital  
Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 0800 – 0900hrs  
ACH Amphitheatre, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
"Genetic Studies of human cerebral cortical development"  
Christopher Walsh, MD, PhD  
Bullard Professor of Paediatrics & Neurology Harvard Medical School  
Chief, Division of Genetics, Boston Children's Hospital  
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

[more events](#)

## Newsworthy Links

[Photos from the DCNS April Madness Basketball Game](#)

Ken Dryden talks concussions in sport

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/news/utoday/april23-2013/forum-on-concussions-in-sports>

Stopping seizures associated with West Syndrome

<http://calgary.ctvnews.ca/stopping-the-seizures-associated-with-west-syndrome-1.1215710>

## Grand Rounds Schedule - May 2013



3<sup>rd</sup> Dr. Lawrence Korngut

10<sup>th</sup> Dr. Eric Smith

17<sup>th</sup> Dr. Vladimir Hachinski

24<sup>th</sup> Dr. Robert Bell

31<sup>st</sup> Dr. Yunyan Zhang

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