



## Words of Wisdom by Werle!

Dear Calgary Orthopaedic Community,

2020 has certainly tested our resolve as we face unprecedented challenges with the pandemic. I hope that you and your families have remained safe and healthy. I also hope you managed to have a rest during the summer months.

On a positive note, the Section welcomes Dr. Nathan Evaniew to the Division of Spine Surgery. Dr. Evaniew completed medical school at the University of Calgary, his Orthopaedic Residency and a PhD in Health Research Methodology at McMaster University, as well as Spine Fellowships at UBC and the U of C. He began his practice at FMC on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Section also welcomes Dr. Denis Joly into the role of locum at the South Health Campus for Dr. Stephen Hunt's sabbatical from Sept. – Dec. 2020. I am happy to report that four sites – ACH, PLC, RGH, and SHC are in various stages of recruiting new orthopaedic surgeons to service the needs of the community.

The Surgery Pandemic Recovery Plan developed in concert with the Surgery and Bone & Joint Health SCN's calls for a continued ramp up of surgical activity (up to 150% capacity) into next summer. Likewise, the Alberta Surgery Initiative (ASI) is moving forward given it is one of the current government's top priorities. This initiative will include pre-consultation telephone advice, central triage, use of Chartered Surgical Facilities (CSF's) and increased surgical volumes in AHS facilities to improve patient access. Our Section is well positioned to succeed in many of these areas. Stay tuned as government funding announcements will be forthcoming.

I would like to personally thank Dr. Ian Le for his contributions as Program Director of the Orthopaedic Residency Program over the past two years. He has decided to step down to spend more time with his family. Dr. Peter Lewkonja will be the Interim Program Director until the search and selection process is complete this fall.

Thanksgiving is a good time to reflect on how fortunate we are to live, work, and play in the place that we do. On many levels, even during a global pandemic, we are fortunate.

Best wishes and stay healthy!

### Education – Making the Grade!

Thank you again to all residents, fellows, faculty and other staff for ongoing flexibility and hard work in the setting of ongoing and changing COVID concerns. Foothills Medical Centre remains an outbreak site. Visiting residents are being re-assigned to other sites over the next few months.

Resident Golf Day went ahead of August 13. Thank you to all of those who participated and contributed to this annual event.

Our first cohort of CBD residents are proceeding with their new curriculum. A reminder to all faculty and other residents to complete evaluation requests when possible in a timely manner.

Junior residents will be completing their Surgical Foundations exam October 13 and 14. Best of luck to all.

Orthopaedic Surgery exams for R5 residents will be in March (written) and May (oral). The oral exams this year will be virtual but otherwise proceeding similar to previous years.

Finally, thank you to Dr Ian Le for all of his hard work and commitment to the residency program. Dr Le has chosen to step down as of September 2020. Applications are being accepted for the new program director position (closing date – October 9th).

### Research – Skeletal Mentions!

Recent Research Awardees: 2020 Faculty Seed Grant - Ganesh Swamy/ Paul Salo "Are sex-differences in degenerative spondylolisthesis and degenerative scoliosis explainable by mechanical differences in the post-menopausal intervertebral disc?"; the first Faculty Operational Funds Research Grant was awarded to Mike Monument/Shannon Puloski/ Annalise Abbott "Efficacy of immunotherapies on bone metastases in difficult to treat advanced cancers".

2020 COREF - 17 applications were submitted and are now in the review stage to determine which will be funded (maximum of 12).

Due to the ongoing pandemic it has been decided to cancel the 2020 Stats Workshop – we will host this workshop again in 2021.

McCaig Institute news: MOJO has reopened for business, Biomechanics Lab is back online, the Mobility for Life Project now has ethics approval.

Prism Schneider was awarded the hotly contested GFT position within the Department of Surgery in support and recognition of her outstanding research contributions.

Catherine Leonard has received several requests for assistance with project development from faculty members – the feedback has been positive, and she is looking for a few more (contact: cleonard@ucalgary.ca).

### News from the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health

2020 Wood Forum will take place on November 7<sup>th</sup> – see page two for full details.

Below is a subset of abstracts that were presented as an Oral (O) or Poster (P) presentation at the Fifth Annual McCaig Institute Summer Student Symposium which was held via Zoom on August 13, 2020 (there were awardees in all three sessions): *Session 1:* I Sadiq, A Frederick, F Kassam, F Nicholls, G Swamy, K Thomas, B Jacobs, R Tanguay, A Soroceanu - Chronic pre-operative opioid use is associated with higher peri-operative resource utilization and adverse outcomes in adult spinal deformity patients (O); M Dhiman, N Duncan, G Swamy - Biomechanical properties of the intervertebral disc in pre- and post-menopausal women (O) [1<sup>st</sup> Place Award]; N Krahn, A Masson, B Besler, R Krawetz – Analyzing cartilage healing through different lenses (P) [2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award]; G Mosca, H. Kryzaniak V Biner, S Schneider, D You, P Schneider – Venous thromboembolism rates in patients with sarcoma undergoing orthopaedic surgery: A systemic review (P); B Viner, H Krzyzaniak BSc, G Mosca, S Schneider, D You, P Schneider - Venous thromboembolism in patients with metastatic bone disease requiring orthopaedic surgery: A systematic review (P); S Mudigonda, S Shah, P Salo, R Krawetz – The role of epidural fat stem cells in the growth and maintenance of dural tissues (P); *Session 2:* H Krzyzaniak, D You, P Schneider - Pre-operative thromboprophylaxis does not increase bleeding risk in patients with hip fracture (O) [2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award]; K Hildebrand, K Hildebrand, K Marritt, A Singla, M Monument - Investigating the role of macrophages in soft tissue sarcoma (P); *Session 3:* S Schneider, S Yee, D You, K Thomas, K Lienhard, P Schneider - Evaluating the utility and cost of pre-operative bloodwork in young, healthy patients requiring minor orthopaedic surgery (O); T Belay, M Mina, L Willetts, P Lewkonja - Use of soft tissue-like materials to create a realistic "low cost" simulator for minimally invasive pedicle screw fixation (P).

## Kudos Korner – Congratulations go to

### Course Organization/Participation:

Neil White, was selected by the United States Bone and Joint Initiative to be a participant in the Young Investigator Initiative Program Workshop which takes place virtually from October 23-25, 2020.

Kelly Johnston, presenter, Stryker Canada Hip Arthroscopy Webinar Series, Episode 1, September 16, 2020 “Lessons learned from building my hip practice”, Episode 2, September 23, 2020 “The future of hip arthroscopy .... Where do we go from here?”

### Awards/Honours:

Rohit Bansal, Arthroplasty Fellow, received the Best Overall Research Presentation Award at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fellow’s Research Symposium for the Department of Surgery

Sophia Shah, a master's student from Roman Krawetz's lab, won first place in UCalgary's virtual Three Minute Thesis competition for her presentation "Epidural fat stem cells: Do not discard." – which focuses on epidural fat stem cells around the spine and their ability to assist in healing, therefore challenging existing clinical practices; she represented UCalgary at the Western 3MT Finals on September 23

### Grants:

Roman Krawetz and Sarah Manske received a CFI John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) grant for their project titled "Structure-function tissue interactions in arthritis"

### Other:

Phil Spanswick from Prism Schneider's lab, successfully defended his master's thesis, titled "Using HR-pQCT and finite element analysis to inform clinical assessment of distal radius fractures."

### Some recent publications:

Masson, A.O., Krawetz, R.J. Understanding cartilage protection in OA and injury: a spectrum of possibilities. BMC Musculoskelet Disord 21, 432 (2020). doi.org/10.1186/s12891-020-03363-6



The McCaig Institute’s edition of the **2020 Wood Forum: will take place on line and focus on “Research Advances in Hip Health”** – Raj Sharma, Emma Billington and Liam Martin will be some of the presenters and the guest moderator will be Jon Cornish. Topics will include: Hip replacement techniques; Osteoporosis and hip fractures; Cannabidiol (cannabis) utility in osteoarthritis; Fragility and Stability Program (Offered through the BJSCN and AHS)

Date and Time: Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> / 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

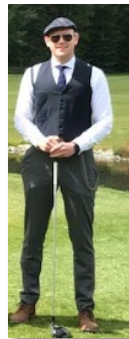
Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/online-wood-forum-2020-hip-health-tickets-111159549204> (more details regarding this online Forum will be provided to registered guests via email closer to the event date)

For more information contact [kirstyn.macgillivray@ucalgary.ca](mailto:kirstyn.macgillivray@ucalgary.ca)

Unfortunately, the annual Orthopaedic Family Holiday Brunch has been cancelled for 2020. Although we all look forward to this fun family event, we must follow the government guidelines regarding gatherings during the pandemic. We greatly look forward to the return of this event in December 2021



The 2020 Orthopaedic Residents Golf Yearly event took place on August 13<sup>th</sup>. To follow the pandemic guidelines, we did not have all of the various hole prizes. Our event took place at Mt. Lorette Kananaski Country Golf Course. We had 40 golfers, who reported that they had a great time! We thank all of those that golfed, and we send out a huge THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS! Congratulations to Dan Anderson, Erin Davison, Jason Werle and Dan You who were our First Place Team winners! This year’s theme was “Prohibition” and Chris Hewison and Laura Morrison were awarded the best costume prizes. Next year’s event will take place on August 12<sup>th</sup>.



For our faculty and past and current residents, the celebration of **50 Years of Calgary Orthopaedic Surgery will take place on July 9-10, 2021!!**

On-line registration will be available early in 2021 – watch for future emails. The general schedule is: Friday July 9 a Welcome Reception in the evening at the Cumming School of Medicine; Saturday July 10 will be our Symposium in the morning at the Cumming School of Medicine, and then a dinner at Hotel Arts in the later afternoon and the evening! We hope that all of you will be able to attend.

Also a reminder for those that were former residents in the program or are current residents, please submit your memory page to Judy Crawford at [acortho@ucalgary.ca](mailto:acortho@ucalgary.ca) as soon as possible.

For more details, or if you have any questions, contact Judy Crawford at [acortho@ucalgary.ca](mailto:acortho@ucalgary.ca).

Please contact Judy Crawford at [acortho@ucalgary.ca](mailto:acortho@ucalgary.ca) if you have submissions or ideas for contents for future newsletters!