

THE BLADE



Department of Surgery Alumni Newsletter
Calgary Health Region • Issue 1 - October 2007



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Together, leading and creating excellence in surgical care



DEPARTMENT HEAD MESSAGE...

As the Department of Surgery approaches its 40th year it has much to celebrate. The Department shares many of the qualities that our City is recognized for, tremendous growth, energy, confidence in the future and a “can do” spirit. The launch of the Surgery Alumni Newsletter celebrates our past, present and future. We were pleased and privileged to host Dr. Bob Kiaii, one of our graduates, who has gone on to great success as the first distinguished Lafreniere Alumni Lecturer. The tradition of recognizing our mentors and leaders was once again a highlight of Surgeon’s Day and an event I particularly enjoyed. It was wonderful to recognize the on going work of Dr. Myles and Dr. Van Zuiden and a privilege to reconnect with Drs. Williams, Noakes, Mitchell and Robb who represent part of our surgical heritage. Congratulations to our undergraduate and graduate research award winners. Dr. Harrop exemplified the tremendous work and dedication of our Members in educating the Surgeons of the future. As the Department grows, the number of Students and Faculty joining us each year will increase. Sharing the news in our community will become more important than ever and I’m sure in your capable hands “The Blade” once again will emerge as the instrument of choice.

Best Regards,

John B. Kortbeek, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Regional Clinical Department Head (Surgery), Calgary Health Region
Professor and Head, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Surgery, University of Calgary

SURGEON’S DAY 2007

The Surgeons’ Day Research Symposium was held on Friday, June 22 and included presentations from residents and fellows, as well as keynote lectures by our distinguished judges. The **Peter Cruse** Award was given to the medical student who submitted the best surgical research paper, as well as an honourable mention for the second place student. This year, the winner was **Paul McBeth**, with his project entitled “Effect of Patient Positioning on Intra-Abdominal Pressure Monitoring” and honourable mention going to **Prism Schneider**, with her project entitled “*Radiographic Quantification of Pincer Femoroacetabular Impingement.*”

Our distinguished judges for the symposium included **Dr. Cy Frank** from the University of Calgary, who gave the **McMurtry** Lecture entitled “*The Science of Evidence-Based Surgery*” and **Dr. Richard Reznick**, from the University of Toronto, who gave the **McPhedran** Lecture.



Dr. Cy Frank
University of Calgary
Bone & Joint Institute



Dr. Richard Reznick
University of Toronto
Division of General Surgery

The Distinguished Service Awards for each site were awarded at the Wainwright Hotel, Heritage Park at our “Western” themed dinner, which over 200 people attended.

- Dr. Jack Noakes, Dr. Lorne Mitchell, Dr. Alex Robb – Peter Lougheed Centre
- Dr. Terry Myles – Alberta Children’s Hospital
- Dr. Lowell Van Zuiden – Rockyview Hospital
- Dr. Jack Williams – Foothills Medical Centre

There was a special “Educator of the Year Award” given to **Dr. Rob Harrop**, Division of Plastic Surgery for his dedication and commitment to surgical education.



Dr. Jack Noakes
PLC



Dr. Lorne Mitchell
PLC



Dr. Alex Robb
PLC



Dr. Terry Myles
ACH



Dr. Lowell Van Zuiden
RGH



Dr. Jack Williams
FMC



Dr. Rob Harrop
ACH

Lafreniere 1st Annual Alumni Lecture



Dr. Bob Kiaii was our inaugural Dr. Rene Lafreniere lecturer. Dr. Kiaii attended medical school and went on to a surgical internship at the University of Western Ontario. He completed his general surgery residency at the University of Calgary and then returned to the University of Western Ontario for a Fellowship in Cardiac Surgery and Cardiac Transplantation; from there to the University of Leipzig, Germany where he carried out additional training in robotic and minimally invasive cardiac surgery.

Since returning to the University of Western Ontario he has received 9 major research grants and made significant contributions to the field of cardiac surgery including firsts in robotic assisted procedures such as integrated coronary artery revascularization and multi-vessel coronary artery bypasses.

RESEARCH

Highlights of the Year in Research - Department of Surgery 2006

The Department continues to develop its capacity for research. The annual showcase of Surgeon's Day was a great success; the quality of both the residents' and the visiting speaker's presentations was outstanding. **Dr. Reznick**, from Toronto, discussed the way we train residents and outlined a new vision of training that would accelerate learning and responsibility for all training programs. **Dr. Frank**, provided an excellent overview of how an integrated service delivery model can improve care for patients.

The number and quality of the publications from the Department continues to increase; this year, 173 manuscripts originated from the department versus 158 per year in 2005/2006. **Dr. Elijah Dixon** published the highest number of high impact publications.

The Department also has made a significant addition by partnering with the Office of Community Health Sciences, wherein **Elizabeth Oddone Paolucci**, PhD is now working with us on a half-time basis as a biostatistician. Elizabeth, under the supervision of **Claudio Violato**, PhD graduated with her PhD in Educational Psychology from the Faculty of Education at the University of Calgary in 1998, with a specialization in Human Development and Learning, and Statistics and Research Design. For ten years she has been teaching undergraduate statistics to education, psychology, nursing, and medical education students. Her primary research interests have focused on psychometrics, as well as Medical Education Assessment and Evaluation and Health Technology Assessment. Elizabeth can be reached via e-mail at

eoddone@ucalgary.ca or by telephone at 944-3151 for consultation. Remember, the best way to deal with statistics is to design the study so the answer is so obvious you don't need them!! She can help.

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The Department acknowledges the significant contributions of the following Physician Leaders who completed their terms in the last year.

*Dr. Tom Gillis, Regional Division Chief
Otolaryngology*

*Dr. Peter Huang, Regional Division Chief
Ophthalmology*

*Dr. Douglas Vincelli, Regional Division Chief
Oral Maxillofacial Surgery*

*Dr. Jeff Way, Site Chief Surgery
Rockyview General Hospital*

GOLF TOURNAMENT

This year the Department of Surgery Golf Tournament merged with SURINGO, which was held on Monday June 25th, 2007 at the Cottonwood Golf and Country Club. The weather did not cooperate and although, not one single round of golf was played, the tournament raised approximately \$140,000 for all three charities - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, High Banks and Calgary Surgical Education Research and Trust.

The Department of Surgery would like to thank **Dr. Phil Mitchell**, **Dr. Robert Lindsay**, **Dr. David Sigalet** and **Ms. Marie McEachern**. A special thank you is expressed to the golfers, donors sponsors and volunteers. See you next year!

NEW FACULTY (SEPTEMBER 2006 - SEPTEMBER 2007)

Dr. Jag Anand joined the Division of Ophthalmology in February 2007. His residency at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital was completed in 1998 and was followed by Fellowships in Medical and Surgical Retina from UofT and Diseases and Surgery of Retina from UBC. Dr. Anand's clinical area of knowledge focuses on medical and surgical retina. Dr. Anand is a father with very active 2 ½ year old twins. Dr. Anand enjoys listening to Indian classical music.

Dr. Paul Beaudry is a member of the Division of Pediatric Surgery (General Surgery). He has completed his Residency at the University of Calgary. Dr. Beaudry completed a Research Fellowship in Boston on Angiogenesis with Dr. Judah Folkman and a Pediatric Surgery Fellowship at British Columbia Children's Hospital. Dr. Beaudry is married to Dr. Carmen Brauer.

Dr. Carmen Brauer is a member of the Division of Pediatric Surgery (Orthopaedic Surgery). Dr. Brauer completed her Residency in Calgary, which was followed by a Masters in Health Economics at York, United Kingdom, visiting Scientist at Harvard Septem School of Public Health in Boston and a clinical Pediatric Orthopaedic Fellowship in Vancouver, B.C. **Dr.'s Brauer** and **Beaudry** have two children, Ben age 5 and Ann age 3.

Dr. Christine Bell joined the Division of Pediatric Dentistry in July 2007. She completed her Residency in Rochester, New York at the University of Rochester at the Eastman Dental Center in Strong Memorial Hospital. Her clinical area of focus is on dentistry for special needs and medically compromised children. Dr. Bell hails originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dr. James Brookes joined the Division of Pediatric Surgery in July 2007. He completed his Residency in Otolaryngology at the University of Alberta. This was followed by a Fellowship in Pediatric Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Iowa. His clinical areas of expertise include the full breadth of pediatric otolaryngology including otology, head and neck conditions, airway reconstruction and sinus and speech surgery. Dr. Brookes is engaged to Valerie, who is a Speech Language Pathologist, whom he met in Iowa. Skiing, running and hiking are among his interests.

Dr. Tony Carlsson has joined the Division of Ophthalmology. Dr. Carlsson completed his Residency at Queen's University, in Ontario. His Fellowship was completed at the University of Western Australia in Perth and it was focused on Cornea and Anterior Segment Surgery. Dr. Carlsson is a welcome addition to the Cornea section of the Division of Ophthalmology. He has been married 11 years and has two sons, age 3 and 5. Dr. Carlsson's interests include travel, gourmet food, golf, football, family time, and all outdoor activities.

Dr. Linda Cooper became a member in Pediatric Surgery on September 1, 2007. Her subspecialty is Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus. She has completed her residency in Ophthalmology at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. She has completed three fellowships; Fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in California, Fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology at Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. She did a third short Fellowship in Ocular Pathology at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. Her area of focus will be Pediatric Ophthalmology.

Dr. Frankie Fraulin joined the Division of Pediatric Surgery (Plastic Surgery) in August 2007. He completed his Residency at the University of Alberta. This was followed by a Fellowship in Pediatric Plastic Surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, a Fellowship in Microvascular Surgery at the Bernard O'Brien Institute of Microsurgery in Melbourne, Australia and a Fellowship in Cosmetic Surgery at the Cosmetic Surgery Hospital in Wood Bridge, Ontario.

Prior to returning to Calgary, Dr. Fraulin was working in Scarborough, where his practice covered the wide range of both Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgery. His main reason for returning to Calgary is to focus his practice on Plastic Surgery problems in children and to be involved in the teaching program. Dr. Fraulin is married to Lisa Stevenson, a family physician. They have 3 children; son Luke, age 9 plays hockey and baseball; Georgia, age 7 is in Gymnastics and Arts; and Daniel, age 6 is in hockey and soccer. Any free time that Dr. Fraulin has is spent with his family, he loves watching their activities. He also enjoys basketball, jogging, mountain biking and skiing.

Dr. Ian Le joined the Division of Orthopaedics in March of 2007. He completed his Residency at the University of Calgary, followed by a Foot and Ankle fellowship at both Harborview Medical Centre, (University of Washington, Seattle) and Duke University. His clinical area of focus is Foot and Ankle and Trauma. He is located at the Peter Lougheed Hospital. He is married and is a very proud father of his first child, a newborn boy, Caden. Dr. Le enjoys spending time with his wife Catherine and son Caden and as well likes playing hockey, golf, volleyball and woodworking if he has any spare time left.

Dr. Veenu Lekhi joined the Division of Dentistry and Oral Health in March 2007. She completed her Doctor of Dental Surgery at Dalhousie University. She has worked in private practice in Halifax and BC. Dr. Lekhi has fundraised for and initiated dental missions for Haiti and Guyana.

Dr. Brad Mechor joined the Division of Otolaryngology in July 2007. Dr. Mechor is a born and raised "Saskatchewan Boy". He completed Medical School in Saskatchewan, followed by his Otolaryngology Residency at the University of Alberta 2006. He completed a Fellowship in Rhinology, Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery with Dr. Amin Javer at St. Paul's Sinus Centre at the University of British Columbia. Dr. Mechor is the first Fellowship trained Sinus Surgeon in Calgary. His clinical areas of interest include sinusitis and systemic diseases affecting the nose and sinus, allergic fungal sinusitis and endoscopic skull base surgery. Dr. Mechor is married to Lisa and they have one dog, a Yorkie, named Sophie. His interests include fly fishing and golf.

Dr. Shannon Puloski joined the Department in September 2006, he is a member of the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery. After completing his Residency in Calgary, Dr. Puloski did a Fellowship in Bern, Switzerland and Oxford, England on Hip and Pelvic Re-construction. This was followed by a second Fellowship at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. Dr. Puloski's clinical practice is focused on adult re-construction and Musculoskeletal Oncology and is located at Foothills Medical Centre. Dr. Puloski is married to Kylie and has one daughter with his second baby due January. His hobbies include skiing, fly fishing and working around the house.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Greg Abelseth has assumed the role of **Clinical Informatics Physician**. Dr. Abelseth is a Graduate of the University of Calgary. He completed a Rotating Internship at Memorial University and Orthopaedic Residency Training at the University of Calgary. Additional training then included an AO Fellowship and Research Fellowship in Oslo, Norway followed by a Trauma and General Orthopaedic Fellowship in England. He has received numerous awards recognizing clinical excellence and excellence in teaching. He holds an appointment as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Orthopedics, Department of Surgery. Dr. Abelseth has been very active in both undergraduate and graduate education. We welcome him in his new role in supporting the implementation of the electronic health record and the development of information technology to support enhanced surgical care, research and education.

Dr. Lea Austen is in a new role as **Physician Leader Health Technology and Innovation**. Dr. Austen is a graduate of the University of Calgary and for his Residency in General Surgery he has recently completed a Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology in the Department of Community Health Sciences. He has received awards for academic achievement and research. Dr. Austen has an academic appointment as a Clinical Lecturer in the Division of General Surgery, Department of Surgery. In this new and exciting role, Dr. Austen will lead the initiative to develop a streamlined process for the ongoing evaluation of new technologies in surgery.

Dr. John Dushinski has accepted the position of **Site Chief - Surgery, Rockyview General Hospital**. Dr. Dushinski is a Graduate of the University of Alberta. He completed his post-graduate training in Urology at the University of Western Ontario, following which he completed an Endo-urology Fellowship at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. Dr. Dushinski holds an appointment as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Urology, Department of Surgery. He is the Division Chief – Urology. Dr. Dushinski has served as President of the Prairie Urological Association. He has been very active in continuing medical education and has been invited as a presenter at numerous national and international symposia. Dr. Dushinski has numerous

publications and book chapters to his credit. We look forward to his leadership of Surgical Services at the Rockyview General Hospital during this time of tremendous growth and program development.

Dr. Richard Hu has accepted the position as **Site Chief - Surgery, Foothills Medical Centre** effective February 1, 2007. Dr. Hu is a Graduate of Memorial University of Newfoundland. He completed his Residency in Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Alberta, following which he pursued a Sports Medicine Fellowship at the University of Alberta. He subsequently completed a term as an Alberta Heritage Research Fellow and a combined Spine Fellowship at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Orthopaedics, Department of Surgery with a cross appointment to the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary. He has served in many leadership roles, most recently as both the Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Foothills Medical Centre and Deputy Regional Clinical Chief of Orthopaedics for the Calgary Health Region. Dr. Hu has had a productive academic career in surgery and has authored more than 30 peer reviewed publications, numerous abstracts and several book chapters. He has traveled extensively as an invited speaker. He has received several distinctions and awards both for research and teaching. We welcome Dr. Hu to his new and challenging role.

Dr. Ken Romanchuk has agreed to serve as the **Division Chief of Ophthalmology in the Department of Surgery, Calgary Health Region and University of Calgary** through to June 30, 2008. He is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan, where he completed his Residency training, followed by a Fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology at the University of Iowa, and a Fellowship in Corneal Anterior Segment Surgery at the University of Connecticut. He joined the Faculty at the University of Saskatchewan, receiving an appointment as a full Professor in 1991, and serving as Head from 1992 - 2000, and then as Acting Head of the Department from 2004 until joining the Calgary Health Region in January of 2006.

Dr. Romanchuk has an outstanding clinical, administrative, and academic record; he has received numerous awards

for excellence in teaching and served as the residency training Program Director in Saskatoon. He has been a tireless supporter of the work of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, recently being a member of the Committee of Specialties and Chair of the Core Surgery Committee. Dr. Romanchuk has contributed extensively to the medical literature, and has been an invited lecturer nationally and internationally. Dr. Romanchuk's expertise has been sought out, as both an academic and a program reviewer across Canada. Dr. Romanchuk brings a wealth of experience and leadership skills to Calgary. His continuing commitment and willingness to serve are greatly appreciated. We look forward to his continued success in the coming year.

Dr. Paul Petrsek has been appointed **Division Chief of Vascular Surgery in the Department of Surgery, Calgary Health Region, and the University of Calgary** effective August 1, 2007. Dr. Petrsek has recently served as the Acting Division Chief. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto, where he subsequently completed his Residency in General Surgery, and a Fellowship in Vascular Surgery. He then served as a Vascular Fellow at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, at the University of Sydney in Australia, working in the Endovascular Research Laboratory, as well as participating on the Clinical Service. Dr. Petrsek also completed the Surgical Scientist Program while attending the University of Toronto, where his work focused on the role of neutrophil adhesion molecules in skeletal muscle ischemia-reperfusion injury. Since joining the Faculty in Calgary, Dr. Petrsek has served as the Residency Training Program Director for the Vascular Surgery residency.

Dr. Brian Whitestone has accepted the position of **Division Chief of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery in the Department of Surgery, Calgary Health Region and University of Calgary**. He completed his Doctor of Dentistry at the University of Toronto, followed by a Residency in oral maxillofacial surgery at Georgetown University, Washington, DC. Dr. Whitestone has been in Calgary since 1998. Dr. Whitestone is an accomplished teacher providing lectures at the University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

DIVISION NEWS

Division of Dentistry & Oral Health

Dr. Eduardo Kalaydjian

It has been a very active year in the Division of Dentistry and Oral Health. This past summer, the Calgary Health Region dental clinics underwent accreditation reviews by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada and did very well. The results of the review will be received by November of this year.

The Division, under the leadership of the Regional Chief, Dr. Eduardo Kalaydjian, has begun to create closer academic relationships with the Universities of Alberta and Calgary. We are in the process of developing a Dental General Practice Residency (GPR) Program to train General Dentists to treat pediatric and adult medically complex and Special Needs patients at the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) and the Foothills Medical Centre (FMC) respectively. The two programs will increase access to treatment for these patient populations.

The ACH Pediatric GPR Program will be the first of its kind in Alberta. Since completing a Needs Assessment, we are also in the process of developing a Dental Continuing Education Program with the Department of Continuing Medical Education at the University of Calgary.

The Sub-Division of Community Oral Health along with the Canadian Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, co-sponsored and organized the Canadian Conference on Early Childhood Caries (September 28 and 29). The sold-out conference featured presenters and delegates from across the country, including Dr. Peter Cooney, Chief Dental Officer for Canada.

The Thornhill and Forest Lawn Community Clinics were merged into the new Northeast Dental Clinic at Sunridge Mall. In 2008 the City Hall Clinic moves to new brighter premises in the Sheldon Chumir Health Centre. Dr. Luke Shwart continues to be the Sub-Division Chief of Community Oral Health.

The FMC Dental Clinic continues to serve medically compromised and Special Needs adult patients. There has been a recent change in leadership with Dr. Antonietta Paladino taking over the clinic directorship as interim Chief of Adult Dentistry at the FMC site. Two on-site specialty clinics were introduced in 2007; a Periodontics Clinic led by Dr. Colin Wiebe (Periodontist) and an Oral Medicine Clinic led by Dr. Galib Shariff (Oral Medicine Specialist). The introduction of these two specialty clinics has expanded the dental

services it is able to offer medically complex and Special Needs patients and brings the needed proficiency to support a Dental GPR Program.

The ACH Dental Clinic has implemented electronic charting and has upgraded to digital radiography. Dr. Marie Claude Cholette is the Sub-Division and Regional Chief of Pediatric Dentistry and continues to provide Naso-Alveolar Moulding Appliances to babies born with cleft palates.

Division of General Surgery

Dr. Francis Sutherland

The Regional Division of General Surgery in Calgary is in the process of consolidating its growth over the last several years and planning for the future. All three adult hospitals have additions planned, and an entirely new south hospital is on the horizon.

The Division has grown to 35 surgeons and subspecialty groups have developed in Surgical Oncology, HPB, Colorectal, Upper GI Surgery and Trauma. With this there has been an expansion of our fellowship programs to include Surgical Oncology (Endocrine and HPB), Colorectal and now Upper GI Surgery. We have developed a Fellowship Council to fund and manage out programs. Our residency program has also increased to 27 Residents.

On the research side, productivity continues to increase on a yearly basis. This increased output is largely as a result of our Fellowship Programs and new Faculty. Dr. Elijah Dixon is our first CIHR AHFMR Population Health Investigator and Dr. Lloyd Mack is completing his Masters of Epidemiology, which looks at colorectal cancer screening.

From an administrative point of view Dr. Francis Sutherland has taken over the Regional Head position from Dr. Jan Pasiaka. Dr. Pasiaka is to be congratulated on her strong leadership over a decade of growth and strategic development.

Dr. Don Buie has been appointed the new head of the Division at the Foothills Centre. Dr. John Heine and Dr. Steve Martin are providing leadership at the PLC and RGH, respectively. Dr. Tony Maclean is running our Residency Program with great skill.

Over the next several years we are looking at expanding Dr. Pasiaka's Endocrine surgery program, developing a regional ambulatory surgery program and also developing a new regional approach to delivery of emergency general surgery.

Division of Ophthalmology

Dr. Ken Romanchuk

The Division of Ophthalmology is please to welcome all of the new recruits to the Division this past year.

Education

A new residency program in ophthalmology was started last year, and currently have one resident in each of PGY1, 2 & 3, with plans for a PGY5 (being repatriated from the USA) in Jan 2008. We are looking forward to our inaugural internal review in October of this year.

Research

Several ongoing research projects particularly in the fields of retina, retinopathy of prematurity, keratorefractive surgery in children, and glaucoma. One particularly important study is of the effectiveness of intraocular injection of a neovascular inhibitor in age related macular degeneration.

Division of Orthopedic Surgery

Dr. Cy Frank/Dr. Robert Hollinshead

Major Achievements

The Bone and Joint Health Program has been evolving for the past several years and is making great progress. The Arthroplasty Pilot took place in three Regions, including Calgary, and was a success in showing what can be done.

Research

We continue to move forward in working with the REACH! Campaign to develop funding to outfit the Bone and Joint Health space in the HRIC Building. Alberta Orthopaedic Resident Research Day was held April 20, 2007 at the Alberta Children's Hospital (resident level at time of award: Dr. Eldridge Batuyong, R1, received The Dr. Gary Hughes Research Award; First place for the Linvatec Clinical Research Paper was awarded to Dr. Danny Goel, R4, with second place going to Dr. Elizabeth Pedersen, R4).

In June 2007 five grants were awarded to residents and faculty in a competitive process funded by the Calgary Orthopaedic Research and Education Fund (COREF) (Dr. Gurpreet Dhaliwal, R4 with Dr. Richard Boorman "Active Abducted and Weighted Abducted Views: Effects on Glenohumeral Joint Space"; Dr. Ian Lo "MR-Arthrogram and Clinical Analysis of Arthroscopic Repair of Type II SLAP Lesions"; Dr. Nick Mohtadi with Denise Chan "A Randomized Clinical Trial Comparing Three Methods for Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: Patellar Tendon, Quadruple Semitendinosus/Gracilis and Double-

Bundle Semitendinosus/Gracilis Grafts"; Dr. Michael Monument, R2, "The Role of the Mast Cell in the Creation of Post-traumatic Contractures of the Rabbit"; and Dr. Richard Boorman with Dr. Dianne Bryant "Humeral Resurfacing Hemiarthroplasty versus Conventional Stemmed Hemiarthroplasty. A Canadian, Multicentre Randomized Controlled Trial: Phase I – Pilot Feasibility Study").

Dr. Kevin Hildebrand received the Founder's Medal for the top paper at the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society meeting held at Halifax, Nova Scotia June 1, 2007. Dr. Danny Goel, R4 was awarded third prize for his paper: "Deep Vein Thrombosis Prophylaxis in Distal Lower Extremity Fractures – A Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial" at the 2007 CORA Meeting in June 2007. Dr. Matt Di Silvestro (Orthopaedic Resident Graduate June 2007) presented the top Canadian Orthopaedic Research paper at the Canadian Orthopaedic Association meeting at Halifax, Nova Scotia June 2, 2007.

Kudos To:

Dr. Matt Di Silvestro who received the 2006 JA Nutter Award for the best overall paper presented at the 2006 Canadian Orthopaedic Resident Association; Dr. Robert Bray for receiving an AHFMR Scientist Award effective July 1, 2007; Dr. Cy Frank for being named One of the Top 40 Alumni of the University of Calgary in Recognition of the University's 40th Anniversary and for receiving the National Award of Excellence from the Canadian Orthopaedic Association in June 2006; and Dr. David Hart received the Golden Apple Award in February 2007 from the UofC Faculty of Medicine Graduate Education and received an Honorary Doctorate in Biochemistry from Northern Michigan University in May 2006).

Division of Otolaryngology

Dr. Tom Gillis

Dr. Tom Gillis has completed his term as Regional Division Chief, which started with the amalgamation of all hospitals when the Calgary Regional Health Authority formed in the early to mid 90's. Previously, Dr. Gillis was Head of Otolaryngology at the Rockyview General Hospital. Dr. Gillis is very proud with the Division's evolution over the 10+ years.

Highlights from the Division of Otolaryngology include: the development of the Residency Program and Dr. Wayne Matthews as the first Director of the Residency Program. The Division of Otolaryngology now has 4 Residents. The centralization of the Head & Neck Program will help with care delivery for this specific patient population.

Dr. Gillis is also proud of the development of the new Children's Hospital. With all of these accomplishments, the Division of Otolaryngology has been able to increase the manpower through recruitment with the quality of the new recruits being exceptional. In addition, otolaryngology is now proud to have several sub-specialties. On his departure, Dr. Gillis also appreciates the Regional support and involvement that he has had over his tenure as Division Chief.

Division of Pediatric Surgery

Dr. Andrew Wong

The Division is thrilled with their move to the new Alberta Children's Hospital, hard to believe a year has passed. This will greatly assist us in delivering excellent care to patients.

Prime Minister Harper in January 2007, announced a pilot project which include the development of the first pan-Canadian wait times information system to measure wait times for children requiring surgical services.

In April 2007 ACH began participation in the National Pediatric Surgical Wait Time Project (NPSWT). A clinical Recourse Pathway Survey was sent to each Department Head to complete. The results of that survey and other information regarding surgical wait time data collection has now been published in a report (July 2007) by the National office of the NPSWT project and submitted to Health Canada. A retrospective study has also been completed at our site which targeted five areas (Neurosurgery, Cancer Surgery, Strabismus Surgery, Scoliosis Surgery and Dental treatment requiring anesthesia). Data was collected from surgeries completed from January 1, 2007 to April 30, 2007, capturing decision date recorded on OR booking form to date surgery was performed. This time frame was measured to the OCHN priority access targets defined by diagnosis. The number of cases that were done "within target" to "out of target" was recorded.

The next phase of this study is to develop and implement a database tool which will begin collecting data prospectively beginning September 1, 2007.

Division of Plastic Surgery

Dr. William de Haas for Dr. Robert Lindsay

We have seen several changes in the Division of Plastic Surgery this year. Dr. Robert Lindsay is the Regional Chief now that Dr. Enzo Magi has stepped down. Dr. Vim de Haas is currently Site Chief for Foothills Hospital. We have separated the call schedules of Alberta Children's Hospital and Foothills Hospital as the logistics of covering two busy sites was

becoming too complex. As a result, we will no longer have Dr. Don McPhalen or Dr. Rob Harrop taking call at the Foothills Hospital.

Dr. Duncan Nickerson has moved from the PLC to Foothills Hospital. He has a special interest in Burn Surgery and will eventually become Director of the Burn Unit. Dr. Christiaan Schrag has been involved in cases at the Foothills Site but will be relocating to Rockyview Hospital. His interest is in Head and Neck Reconstruction. The Head and Neck Oncology Program is to be established at Rockyview Hospital and Dr. Schrag represents our Division in this program.

We now have six residents in the Plastic Surgery Residency Training Program. This is the largest number of residents at anyone time in the history of the program.

The microvascular lab has been "tuned up" to give hands on experience to residents on microvascular anastomoses prior to working on patients in their R3 year. Many training programs in the country have been unable to provide all aspects of complete Plastic Surgery training. Some of these areas include Complete Burn Care, Pediatric Plastic Surgery, Head and Neck Microvascular Reconstruction, Post traumatic and post oncologic limb reconstruction Craniomaxillofacial; trauma and peripheral nerve surgery. We proudly provide this complete training and actively pursue recruitment of staff with appropriate advanced tertiary care experience.

Division of Podiatry

Dr. Brent D. Haverstock

The Division of Podiatric Surgery continues to evolve and establish its role in the management of foot and ankle disorders in the Calgary Health Region. The division consists of two sections, an Out-patient Section and a Hospital Section. Members of the Hospital Section are responsible for the management of all podiatric related hospital care in the Calgary Health Region. This includes coverage of the emergency departments, in-house patient management and in-hospital surgery. The group works very closely with vascular surgeons, infectious disease specialists, internists and other surgical disciplines in the management of lower extremity complications related to diabetes mellitus. Members of the Hospital Section are also granted block surgical time at the Peter Lougheed Centre and receive an allocation of surgical time at the non-hospital surgical centre. Members of the Outpatient Section receive an allocation of surgical time at the non-hospital surgical centre.

This past June the division hosted a Foot & Ankle Seminar at the Delta Lodge in Kananaskis. In April 2008 the division will

be hosting a Diabetic Foot Conference in Banff.

The division is currently working on the development of a podiatric surgical residency with plans of accepting its first resident next year.

Division of Thoracic Dr. Gary Gelfand

The Division of Thoracic Surgery continues to be very active in a number of areas. Administratively, after extremely careful consideration of all aspects of patient management, a proposed move to the Rockyview Hospital has been decided against and the Division will remain located at the Foothills site. This process spanned over three years and involved an enormous amount of planning and effort by many people to whom the Division is very grateful. It was an important and fascinating process to go through and in the end while it did not proceed, we believe it is the best conclusion for all parties involved and most importantly for thoracic surgical patients.

From a clinical standpoint, a major development is that our OR team now consists of dedicated thoracic nurses led by our new Thoracic Clinician, Anne Cawood. This has been a very positive experience. This dedicated team (along with a healthy dose of patience) will allow the Division to pursue the introduction of Video Assisted Lobectomies to the Calgary Health Region. While minimally invasive surgical techniques have been around for a considerable length of time, it is only recently that these have been shown to impact positively on pulmonary surgery.

In the area of education, we are now training our second resident in Thoracic Surgery, Dr. Maurice Blitz. Dr. Blitz is entering his second year in Calgary and has proved to be a very welcome addition to the team. Our first resident, Dr. Patrik Nechala, successfully completed his exams in Thoracic Surgery and is now practicing in Owen Sound, Ontario.

Research continues to be an ongoing priority for thoracic surgery. The past two years have been very successful with both Drs. Nechala and Dr. Blitz winning the Robert J. Ginsberg Award for Resident Research at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Thoracic Surgeons. The division has also been successful in publishing a generous number of peer reviewed articles during this timeframe. Unfortunately, one of the very important people for our research success has decided to move on to new opportunities. Corina Tiruta worked for 4 years as our research coordinator/database manager. She moves on to new challenges within the region. We would like

to thank Corina for all her hard work and skill; we wish her best of luck in the future.

Division of Transplant Dr. Serdar Yilmaz

The Division of Transplantation is continuously developing and establishing its role in research, education and multidisciplinary clinical service. Transplantation is a multidisciplinary team with the focus on Patient Centered Care. The Division celebrated its 10th year this September. Over the ten years, 620 patients have underwent kidney or pancreas transplant. The five year patient and organ (cadaveric kidney) survival were 90% and 81%, respectively. The transplant team in Calgary has a much higher patient and graft survival compared to other North American Transplant centers. The underlying reasons for this success include being multidisciplinary, coordinating care across patient conditions, service and setting, making effective use of information technology and regularly measure of performance and outcomes. The division has been collaborating with Haskayne Business School for redesigning the care process over the past 12 months.

Research: Several research projects are ongoing in the field of transplantation and hemodialysis access. The three transplant surgeons are very active in research: focuses include the development of a histologic/molecular marker for predicting of organ failure, functional marker predicting vascular access and islet cell transplantation. This year, the division will participate in two large industry sponsored trials, one by Global Novartis for \$1.0M and the second by Astellas for \$500,000. Division member have published 5 papers in prestigious journals and presented 17 oral/poster presentations mainly at international meetings.

Education: Dr Mauricio Monroy is completing his master in Epidemiology and defending his thesis at the end of this year. Our third surgical fellow graduated this summer. Division members also enjoy working with residents and contributing to their surgical skill development.

The division is very proud to see the team expand:

Dr. Abdul Sinan, joined to the transplant team to be trained as Multi organ abdominal transplant fellow. He has previously trained in Liver transplantation in London, Ontario.

Dr. Wenjie Wang, joined the transplant team as Nephrology Transplant Fellow in September 2007.

Dr. Aylin Sar, Research fellow in Molecular Pathology in Transplantation joined in 2006. She is the project lead for developing molecular marker to predict late organ failure.

Ms. Kristal Kiland, BPAS, MKin, ACSM Exercise Specialist, joined the Southern Alberta Transplant Program in September 2006, and started the Transplant Exercise Physiology Clinic.

Dr. Greg Kline, MD, FRCPC, joined the program in September 2006 and started the Transplant Endocrinology Clinic. His clinical area of focus is on endocrinology, adrenal disorders, hypertension, osteoporosis, diabetes, with a special interest in aldosteronism.

Dr. Mydlarski, Regine, MD, FRCPC, DABD, joined the program in January 2007 and started the Transplant Dermatology Clinic.

Dr. Resa TAVANA, Clinical Physician assist, joined the transplant team in September 2007.

Division of Urology Dr. John Dushinski

The Division of Urology is very proud to have the work and contributions of their mentors, Drs. Williams, Noakes, Mitchell and Robb recognized at Surgeon's Day as mentioned in the newsletter.

Phase 2 of the rapid access Prostate Clinic has been implemented. As background, Phase 1 is for all men with suspected possible prostate cancer, referred by all urologists to the clinic. They are seen within two weeks of referral and are either biopsied or followed up with a psa. This clinic is run three days per week. Phase 2 is provided for all men with localized prostate cancer who are debating options. Classes are provided with a urologist, oncologist and radiation oncologist. Feedback from patients has been very positive.

Division of Vascular Surgery Dr. Paul F. Petrasek

In August, Dr. Paul Petrasek was appointed Division Chief. The Division will be training its fourth Vascular Fellow starting in the Fall; Dr. Talal Altuwali, will join us from King Saud University, in Saudia Arabia. He joins Dr. Wesam Abuznah, who is in the second year of the two-year Fellowship.

Amongst the most significant news in Vascular Surgery is that the Division has proposed a restructuring of outpatient care that aims to reduce patients wait times and provide comprehensive care in collateral specialties partnered with vascular surgery, including podiatry and Internal Medicine. The "Western Canada Vascular Centre" (to be built in recently vacated space of the West Wing of PLC) will provide a unified physical location that patients can associate with complete vascular care.

It will include an ambulatory care clinic (for new consultations and follow-up visits), a vascular physiologic testing laboratory, a

Pre-operative Assessment Clinic, a Podiatry Clinic for Vascular Patients, a Vascular Risk Reduction Clinic, a centralized referral and patient scheduling office, and on-site medical records storage.

The proposal goals are (i) centralized patient intake and consolidated waitlist management, with access to first available surgeon, (ii) a team based care model, utilizing non-physician health professionals (RN Case Managers) and (iii) a single, unified location providing complete vascular care. Newly referred patients will be linked to a Surgeon and Case Manager who will together coordinate necessary investigations. These will be booked before surgical consultation. Patients proceeding to surgery will undergo preoperative risk stratification in an integrated Pro-op Assessment Clinic. This service will be available to patients from outside metropolitan Calgary within 24 hours of a decision to proceed to surgery (to minimize trips back and forth to Calgary).

The goal is to consolidate investigations, surgical consultation and preoperative medical assessment to a 2-3 day interval, to minimize trips back and forth to hospital prior to surgical intervention. This is especially important for elderly patients who live outside the city (up to 50% of all patients receiving vascular care). The same expedited process will be used for patients requiring urgent surgery, avoiding the need for hospital admission to consolidate urgent preoperative assessment. It is expected that this project will be initiated during 2008 with recruitment of Case Managers and planning of renovations at PLC to accommodate the facility.

The Department of Surgery would like to thank **Bayer HealthCare** for their continued generosity and donation to the Lafreniere Lectureship Series.



FAREWELL TO THE GRADUATING RESIDENTS 2006-2007

Division of General Surgery

Dr. Chad Ball

- Trauma Fellowship - Critical Care/ Trauma
- Grady Memorial Hospital
- Emory University
- Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Scott Gmora

- Jackson Memorial Ryder Center Fellowship
- Jackson Memorial Hospital
- Miami, Florida

Dr. Michelle Goecke

- Trauma Fellowship
- Vancouver General Hospital
- University of British Columbia
- Vancouver, British Columbia

Dr. John Hwang

- Colorectal Fellowship
- University of California
- San Francisco, California

Dr. Shahzeer Karmali

- Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Houston, Texas

Division of Orthopedic Surgery

Dr. Dean Malish

- Orthopaedic Trauma Fellowship
- University of British Columbia
- He is currently in the Canadian Armed Forces and will be deploying to Kandahar, Afghanistan in August 2008

Dr. Adam Sidky

- Trauma Fellowship in Auckland New Zealand
- Followed by a year in an Arthroplasty Fellowship in Los Angeles, California

Division of Orthopedic Surgery (continued)

Dr. Matthew Di Silvestro

- Foot and Ankle Fellowship
- Vancouver, British Columbia
- Followed by a Foot and Ankle Fellowship
- Dublin, Ireland

Division of Colorectal Surgery

Dr. Chris Kenyon is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Clinical Epidemiology entitled: *Quality Indicators of Screening Colonoscopy in the Calgary Health Region.*

Division of General Surgical Oncology

Dr. Andrew McKay has recently joined the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba and has become a full-time GFT surgeon at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Division of Pediatric General Surgery

Dr. Ali Alassari will be working in Saudi Arabia after finishing at University of Manitoba in General Surgery. His special interest is pediatric minimal invasive surgery and fetal surgery.

Division of Vascular Surgery

Dr. Mark Nutley is currently pursuing opportunities in Open Vascular, Endoscopic, and Laparoscopic Vascular Surgery.

INTRODUCING 2007-2008 NEW RESIDENTS/FELLOWS

Residents

Division of General Surgery

Dr. Chris Armstrong
University of Alberta

Dr. Mantaj Brar
University of Toronto

Dr. Scott Cassie
University of Calgary

Dr. Janet Edwards
Dalhousie University

Dr. Paul McBeth
University of Calgary

Dr. Hani Redwan
King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia

Division of Orthopedic Surgery

Dr. Mark DaCabra
University of Toronto

Dr. Cinzia Gaudelli
McGill University

Dr. Luke Harmer
University of Calgary

Dr. Jeremy LaMothe
University of Calgary

Dr. Randa Lawrence
McMaster University

Dr. Brendan O'Neill
Dalhousie University

Division of Plastic Surgery

Dr. Jennifer Matthews
University of Calgary

Division of Ophthalmology

Dr. Patrick Gooi
University of Toronto

Dr. Peter Lee
University of British Columbia

Division of Otolaryngology

Dr. John Cho
University of British Columbia

Fellows/Extended Residents

Division of General Surgery

Dr. Mohammed Bawahab
Subspeciality: Upper GI & Laparoscopic Surgery

Colorectal Surgery

Dr. Khayal Al-Khayal

Surgical Oncology

Dr. Anthony Chambers

Dr. Wesley Francis

Dr. Joel Weaver

Division of Pediatric Surgery

Dr. Kris Milbrandt
Subspeciality: Pediatric General Surgery

Division of Ophthalmology

Dr. Ryan Eidsness
Subspeciality: Oculoplastics

Dr. Asif Salyani
Subspeciality: Retina

Dr. Fawaz (Abdullah) Sarayreh
Subspeciality: Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus

Division of Orthopaedic Surgery

Dr. Hashel Obai Al Tunaji
Subspeciality: Sport Medicine

Dr. Naj Attabib
Subspeciality: Spinal Diseases

Dr. Marcia Clark
SERF (Surgical Education Research Fellow)
Subspeciality: Surgical Ed & Lower Extremity Reconstruction

Dr. Jonathan Monk

Subspeciality: Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery

Dr. Paolo Punsalan

Subspeciality: Paediatric Spinal Deformity Surgery

Dr. Sohail Bajammal

Subspeciality: Orthopaedic Trauma

Dr. Amro Al-Habib

Subspeciality: Spinal Surgery

Dr. Arkan Al-Huneiti

Subspeciality: Paediatric Spinal Deformity Surgery

Dr. Naresh Babu

Subspeciality: Spinal Surgery

Dr. Arno Frigg

Subspeciality: Orthopedic Foot & Ankle

Dr. Veronique Godbout

Subspeciality: Orthopedics/ Arthroscopy

Dr. Andrew Gray

Subspeciality: Orthopedic Trauma

Dr. Jonathan Monk

Subspeciality: Joint Reconstruction- Hip and Knee

Dr. Philip Petit

Subspeciality: Joint Reconstruction- Hip and Knee

Dr. John Trantalis

Subspeciality: Orthopedic Trauma

Dr. Tom van Raaij

Subspeciality: Orthopedic Trauma

Division of Transplant

Dr. Abdul- Hamid Sinan

Subspeciality: Clinical Transplant

Division of Vascular Surgery

Dr. Talal Altuwaijri

Calgary Health Region/University of Calgary Rene Lafreniere Lectureship

Dear Alumnus,

Dr. Rene Lafreniere recently completed a 13 year term as Regional Head of the Department of Surgery in Calgary. Under his leadership the Department realized a number of significant accomplishments, achieved during a period of intense scrutiny regarding the way we deliver care. Subspecialty programmes have been established and expanded. A number of surgical fellowships have been initiated with graduates now practicing from coast to coast. The Department is attracting surgeons with unique expertise from other jurisdictions. Dr. Lafreniere was often heard to say, "a good surgeon is an educated surgeon".



To recognize his leadership, the ***Rene Lafreniere Lectureship*** has been established. A surgeon recognized for his or her achievements will be invited to deliver this lecture, and will also be asked to participate in postgraduate educational activities while in Calgary. Preference will be given to Calgary surgical alumni.

Seed money has been made available by the Calgary Health Region and the University of Calgary. Our goal is to make this lectureship self sustaining. We are asking that you consider a directed donation toward this effort. A tax receipt will be issued and your name will appear on a list of donors. You would, of course, be notified in advance of the annual lecture date and be welcome to attend the lecture.

Please consider this opportunity to make a significant contribution towards the future of your Department of Surgery.

Sincerely,
John A. Heine, MD, FRCSC
Chair, Lafreniere Lectureship Committee

Please see next page for donation form 

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Department of Surgery Website:
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