

THE BLADE

Department of Surgery Alumni Newsletter

Issue 8: September 2014

Together, Leading and Creating Excellence in Surgical Care



ALUMNI LECTURE SPOKE OF QUALITY AND IMPROVEMENT

In This Issue:

3 Message from Dr. John Kortbeek	15 ATSSL	21 New Faculty
5 Highlights	17 Eye Tracking	24 New Residents
8 Alumni Lecture	18 Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery	25 Extended Residents and Fellows
10 Surgeons' Day	20 Annual Softball Tournament	28 Memoriums
12 Surgeons' Day Awards		30 Alumni Lectureship



Message from Dr. John Kortbeek

Welcome to our new Residents and Faculty. As you review the many accomplishments listed in this years Blade you will see the spirit and culture of achievement that characterize our Department. As Alberta continues to grow and the health system that we work in continues to evolve our members have demonstrated leadership in advancing innovative programs for the delivery of surgical care, leading edge simulation and online learning platforms.

Our record of scholarship continues to increase year after year. We are pleased to profile one of our outstanding young Faculty Dr. Carmen Brauer who is establishing a record of excellence in health outcomes in economic analysis. Dr. Brauer is currently on a well deserved sabbatical furthering her research and career goals while having a great experience with her husband Dr. Paul Beaudry and their young children.

We look forward to you continuing to build on this culture and record of excellence as you start your careers in surgery. Welcome to Calgary.

Sincerely,

John B. Kortbeek, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Department Head, Surgery
Alberta Health Services
Professor and Head, Department of Surgery
Professor, Department of Critical Care Medicine
University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine



Dr. John Kortbeek, Head, Department of Surgery

Calling All Department of Surgery Alumni

The Department of Surgery would love to continue to send you copies of our alumni newsletter, The Blade. Many Residents and Fellows move on to new and exciting careers outside of Calgary and we would greatly appreciate if you would let us know where you are going and how we can reach you in the future. If you would like to continue to receive our newsletter, please contact Christine Bourgeois, Administrative Assistant to Dr. Kortbeek, to update your contact information. You may phone her at (403) 944-1697 or email her at Christine.Bourgeois@albertahealthservices.ca. Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you.



Photo provided by Meditek

2013/2014 Highlights

Dr. Janice Pasioka (General Surgery)

Associate Editor of World Journal of Surgery

Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle (Plastic Surgery/Oncology)

Awarded the 2012-2013 Department of Surgery Education Surgery Prize

Dr. Monica Hoy (Otolaryngology)

Surgeon Scientist Program of the Department of Surgery leading to the degree of Masters of Science – beginning September 1, 2013

Dr. Roman Krawetz (PhD Orthopedics)

Appointed the Grace Glaum Professor in Arthritis Research July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2018

Dr. Chad Ball (General Surgery)

Top 40 Under 40 2013 - Avenue Calgary Magazine

Dr. Joseph Dort (Otolaryngology)

2014 Royal College Janes Visiting Professor
Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

Dr. Linda Mrkonjic (Orthopedics)

Appointed to the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board – University of Calgary

Brian and Brenda MacNeill Chair in Pediatric Surgery (\$5M donation)

Dr. Frankie Fraulin - Pediatric Surgery

Dr. Derek Roberts (General Surgery)

Awarded the Dalhousie Medical School Alumnus of the Year Award for significant contribution to the Dalhousie Medical School, other medical schools, or community

Dr. Jeanie Kanashiro (General Surgery)

- Member of the PGME Accreditation Committee, chaired by Dr. Teresa Trotter. Purpose of Committee: Prepare and review all UofC PGME programs prior to 2015 Royal College Accreditation

- Co-chaired and developed a new postgraduate education course with Dr. Marcia Clark on Teaching in Surgery for Fellows

Ms. Andria Marin (Department of Surgery)

- Received a W21C Health Services Research Scholarship – Funding Support: \$30,000
- Elected as a Member of CARNA Provincial Council as a representative to Calgary/West (more than 13,000 members within this zone) for the regulating body of Registered Nurses in Alberta

Dr. Michael Monument

- Recipient of the Helios Scholarship (2014-2015)

GRANTS**Dr. Mantaj Brar and Dr. Neel Datta (General Surgery)**

Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS) Research Fund Operating Grant (2013) for the project: “A Manpower and Wait Times Assessment of Canadian Colorectal Surgery”

Grant Amount: \$10,000

Dr. Chad Ball (General Surgery/Trauma)

Awarded the Department of Surgery Research Prize for: “Preoperative Glucocorticoid use in Hepatectomy – A Randomized Controlled Trial”

Grant Amount: \$75,000

Dr. Elaine Joughin (Peds Surg/Ortho)

Grant Title: Quality Indicator Development in Musculoskeletal Health

Grant Amount: \$207,500

Dr. Elaine Joughin and Dr. James Harder (Peds Surg/Ortho)

Grant Title: Optical Imaging for Scoliosis Torso Reconstruction

Grant Amount: \$36,000

Highlights Continued

Dr. Joseph Dort (Otolaryngology)

Cancer CRIO grant with Karl Riabowol and Don Morris

Title: Developing and Testing a New Treatment for Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma

3 year grant for \$750,000.00

Dr. Eric Hyndman (Urology)

Cancer CRIO grant with Karl Riabowol and Don Morris

Title: Innovative Diagnostics to Improve the Management of Urothelial Carcinoma

3 year grant for \$750,000.00

CLINICAL PROMOTIONS

EFFECTIVE APRIL 2014

Dr. Bill Chow (Ophthalmology)

Promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor

Dr. Chad Ball (General Surgery)

Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Dr. Frankie Fraulin (Peds Surgery)

Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Fiona Costello (Director, Office of Surgical Research and Department of Clinical Neurosciences)

Appointed the Roy and Joan Allen Investigator in Sight Research July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2018

Dr. Jason Werle (Orthopedics)

Appointed Director for the Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Training Program

Section of Orthopaedics – effective October 1, 2013

Dr. Frankie Fraulin (Pediatric Plastic Surgery)

Appointed Section Chief/Facility Chief

Alberta Children's Hospital

Start Date: February 1, 2014

Dr. Don Buie (General Surgery)

Appointed Facility Chief (Surgery)

Foothills Medical Centre

Start Date: April 1, 2014

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence in Course 8

Comprehensive Clinical Skills

Curriculum for Clerkship

Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (Peds/General Surgery)

Dr. Doug Johnson (General Surgery)

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence

Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (General Surgery)

for Physical Exam 1 & 2, and Communication 1

Dr. Don McPhalen (Plastic Surgery)

for Physical Exam 2 and Communication 1

Dr. Wayne Rosen (General Surgery)

for Physical Exam 1

Dr. Rohan Lall (General Surgery)

for Physical Exam 1 and Physical Exam 2

Dr. Andrew Wong (General Surgery)

for Physical Exam 1 and Communication 2

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence in Course 1

Introduction to Medicine/Gastrointestinal/Blood

Dr. A. Wong (Peds/General Surgery)

Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (Peds/General Surgery)

Dr. Doug Johnson (General Surgery)

Nominated as a "Star Educator" by the PGY-1 Program Residents at RGH for General Surgery

Dr. Steve Martin

Dr. Robert Lui

Dr. Artan Reso

Dr. John Graham

Highlights Continued

Dr. Justin Yeung – PGY-5

Best Resident Paper Award

Plastic Surgery Resident Research Day 2013

Title: Reduction of Pulmonary Complications and Hospital Length of Stay with a Clinical Care Pathway after Head and Neck Reconstruction: A Prospective Comparative Observational Study

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence in Course 6

Women's & Children's Health

Dr. Doug Johnson (General Surgery)

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence in Course 2

MSK/Dermatology/ Rheumatology

Dr. Carmen Brauer (Peds Ortho)

Dr. Andrew Wong (Peds Gen Surgery)

Awarded the Bronze Medal for teaching contributions in Population Health Course and Advanced Evidence Based Medicine and the Gold Medal for teaching contribution in Integrative Course 2015

Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (Peds Gen Surg)

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence and the Bronze Medal for Course 1

Introduction to Medicine / Gastrointestinal / Blood

Dr. Donald McPhalen (Pediatric Plastic Surgery)

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence and the Silver Medal for teaching "Introduction to Clerkship"

Ms. Anita Jenkins (Department of Surgery) - Anita Jenkins will complete 14+ years of service as Education Coordinator for the Department of Surgery

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence and the Silver Medal for teaching "Introduction to Clerkship"

Dr. William Buie (General Surgery – Professor Emeritus)

Awarded the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence and the Bronze Medal for teaching "Introduction to Clerkship"

Dr. Chris Armstrong (General Surgery)

Recognized for contributions to Curriculum Design and Implementation Committee (CDIC) and Applied Evidence Based Medicine (AEBM) Course Committee:

Dr. Feisal Adatia (Ophthalmology)

Dr. Fiona Costello (Neuro & Surgery)

Dr. Frankie Fraulin (Peds Surgery)

Dr. Robert Harrop (Peds Surgery)

Dr. Alan Lin (Plastic Surgery)

Dr. Steve Lopushinsky (Peds Surgery)

Dr. Duncan Nickerson (Plastic Surgery)

Dr. Edward Rendall (Orthopedics)

Dr. Geoff Williams (Ophthalmology)

Drs. Neel Datta, Tony MacLean and Mantaj Brar (General Surgery)

Recipients of a \$10,000 Canadian Association of General Surgeons operating grant for manpower studies

Section of Plastic Surgery

Plastic Surgery Residency Program has received full accreditation from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons

Clerkship Awards 2014

Dr. Donald Buie, General Surgery

Dr. John Graham, General Surgery

Dr. Adrian Harvey, General Surgery

Dr. Heather Stuart, Resident

Dr. Nathan Zondervan, Resident

Dr. Ryan Rochon, Resident

Dr. Kenton Rommens, Resident

Alumni Lecture

The Alumni Lecture was hosted at the FMC Auditorium in March 2014, by Dr. Carmen Brauer. Her presentation was titled “Quality and Safety Improvement: The Holy Grail.”

“The current health care system is placing more demands on physicians and surgeons than ever.”

There are a shortage of staff, budget pressures, on call demands, and operating room times that need to be addressed in order to provide better healthcare to the public. Not only that, but surgeons have teaching and research commitments, all of which cause surgeons to look for new ways to navigate the system in order to provide high quality patient care, Dr. Brauer says.

The improvement of patient safety and quality of care is imperative to optimizing the current healthcare system

in Alberta. However, Dr. Brauer says there needs to be a cultural change in order to have clinicians better participate in this change, due to the busy nature of their work.

“One way we can participate is through the development of our own, center specific quality improvement programs and through the development of useful quality indicators.”

These quality indicators are measures of healthcare quality. They will highlight areas of concern where immediate improvement is necessary, as well as pointing to issues in need of further study. Not only that, but they track changes to the healthcare system of time, as they can address variations in practice patterns and system inadequacies.



*Dr. Carmen Brauer and her family
Photo provided by Dr. Carmen Brauer*

In this way, immediate feedback can be given to clinicians in order to improve patient satisfaction. The immediate feedback will allow clinicians to decrease preventable complications, prevent adverse events, and improve teamwork. This will then in turn increase saving in cost for the healthcare system, says Dr. Brauer.

The American College of Surgeons suggests that preventing 15 complications every year will cover the full cost of participating in their National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP).

“While it is important to participate in nationwide initiatives, it is also vital that we develop some of our own initiatives that address local issues,” says Dr. Brauer.

Due to the different nature of children compared to adults, most quality indicators designed for adults aren’t valid in regards to children says Dr. Brauer. They have families that often speak for them, have lower mortality

rates, different disease profiles, are hospitalized less, and constantly changing as they develop.

Due to these differences, the Alberta Children’s Hospital would need their own program with pediatric specific indicators.

“Programs need to be developed to target all our patients, but especially the vulnerable.”

Surgeons are fatigued through participating in improving the care of their patients. However, only by feeling that their concerns are addressed can they participate in changing the current healthcare system in place, says Dr. Brauer.

“By improving inpatient safety and quality we can improve the system and thus improve both patient and surgeon satisfaction.



Alberta Children's Hospital
Photo provided by Nicolle Amyotte

Surgeons' Day

The Department of Surgery hosts a Surgeons' Day every year – a research symposium and dinner to acknowledge and honour the accomplishments of residents, fellows, medical students and surgeons alike. The 32nd symposium was held at the Libin Theatre on Foothills Campus June 13, 2014.

The day started with four sessions where a broad range of research was presented, including, "Intravesical Onabotulinumtoxin A for bladder dysfunction in a real word clinical practice," "The use of MRU in the diagnosis of acute appendicitis in adults," and " Cytomegalovirus: A cause of corneal endotheliitis."

Drs. Luke Rudmik, Marcia Clark, Amin Kherani, and Beth Lange served as sessional moderators, introducing the speakers and moderating during the question periods that followed. Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle and Dr. Thomas Feasby were the judges for the day, as well as lecturers presenting their own research.

Dr. Temple-Oberle presented on the quality of life for patients and surgeons from a plastic surgeon's perspective, focusing on what could be improved in order to provide better patient care while also looking at how to improve the quality of life for those surgeon's looking after them.

Dr. Feasby presented on improving surgical outcomes through clinical trials, which focused on the benefits of clinical trials and appropriateness studies.

During the lunch break, a poster review was led by Dr. Rob Harrop.

The evening dinner and awards ceremony was held at the Gasoline Alley Museum at Heritage Park, where distinguished service and resident-nominated awards are presented annually.

The Distinguished Service Awards are presented to a surgeon from each Calgary facility. This year's recipients were Dr. William Hyndman, from Rockyview General Hospital, Dr. John Heine from Peter Lougheed Centre, Dr. Allan Narvey from Alberta Children's Hospital, and Dr. Norman Schachar from Foothills Medical Centre.

Due to the 2013 flood, the Educator and Ectopic Educator Awards, as well as the Surgical Innovation Award were presented for both 2013 and 2014 at this year's dinner. Drs. Shannon Puloski received the award for 2013, while Lloyd Mack received the educator of the year award for 2014. Dr. Donald Buie received the ectopic educator award for 2013, and Dr. Greg Samis received it for 2014.



Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle was one of the judges for the day.

Dr. Anastasio Salazar received the surgical innovation award for 2013, and Dr. Ferri de Barros received it for 2014.

The McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching was given to four doctors – Dr. Sean Grondin for the UME Leaders Curriculum, Drs. Adrian Harvey and Alicia Ponton-Carss for their Core Surgical Skills program, and Dr. Carol Hutchinson for the UME MSSK Course.

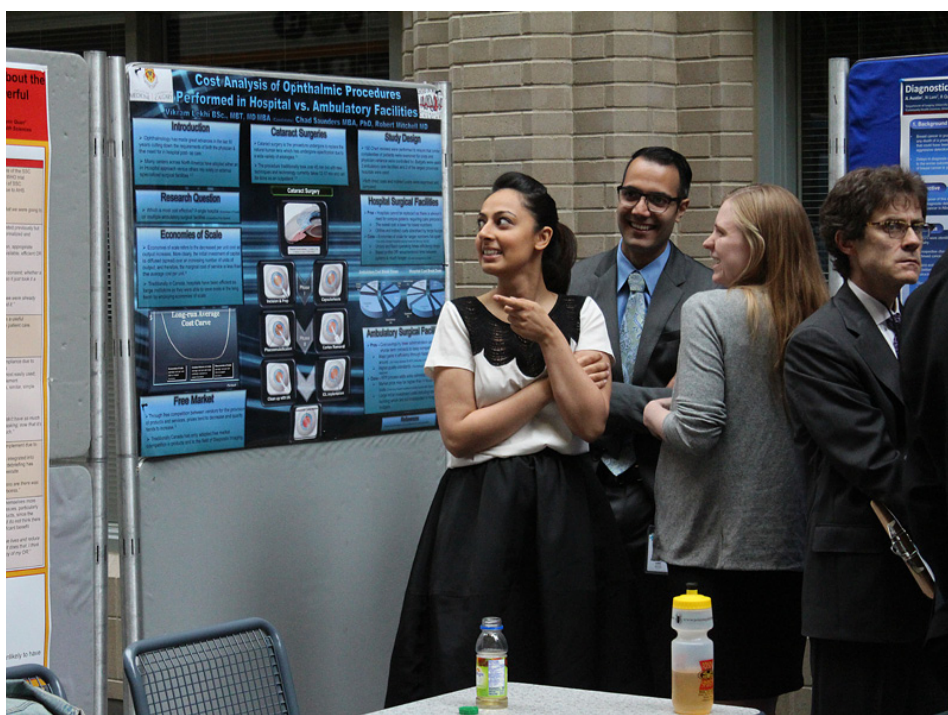
Resident awards were given to three categories – Best Overall Research, Honourable Mention for Overall Research, and Best Poster.

Dr. Jon Dautremont of the Section of Otolaryngology, received the award for Best Overall Research for his

presentation, “The Role of Postoperative Systemic Corticosteroids when Utilizing a Steroid-Eluting Spacer Following Endoscopic Sinus Surgery.”

Dr. Christopher Blackmore, of the Section of General Surgery, received the Honourable Mention for Overall Research for his presentation, “Should We Still be Performing Open Appendectomies? A Comparison of Outcomes for Laparoscopic Versus Open Appendectomy with Data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).”

Dr. Janice Austin of the Section of General Surgery received the award for Best Poster, for her poster, “Diagnostic delays: A problem for young women with breast cancer?”



Posters were presented and judged during the lunch break.



Gasoline Alley, Heritage Park

Surgeons' Day Awards

Dr. John Heine from Peter Lougheed Centre, received the Distinguished Service Award.



Dr. Norman Schachar from Foothills Medical Centre, received the Distinguished Service Award.



Dr. Allan Narvey from Alberta Children's Hospital, received the Distinguished Service Award.



Dr. Shannon Puloski from the Foothills Medical Centre, received the Educator Award for 2013.



Dr. Donald Buie, from the Foothills Medical Centre, received the Ectopic Educator Award for 2013.



Dr. Lloyd Mack, from the Section of General Surgery and Surgical Oncology received the Educator Award for 2014.



Dr. Ferri de Barros, from the Alberta Children's Hospital, received the Surgical Innovation Award for 2014.



Dr. Greg Samis from the Peter Lougheed Centre, received the Ectopic Educator Award for 2014.



Dr. Anastasio Salazar, from the Foothills Medical Centre, received the Surgical Innovation Award for 2013.



Dr. Carol Hutchinson, from the Foothills Medical Centre, received the McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching for the UME MSSK Course.



Drs. Adrian Harvey and Alicia Ponton-Carss, from the Foothills Medical Centre, received the McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching for their Core Surgical Skills program.



Dr. Christopher Blackmore, from the Section of General Surgery, received the Honourable Mention for Overall Research for his presentation, "Should We Still be Performing Open Appendectomies? A Comparison of Outcomes for Laparoscopic Versus Open Appendectomy with Data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).



Dr. Sean Grondin, from the Foothills Medical Centre, received the McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching for the UME Leaders Curriculum.



Dr. Jon Dautremont from the Section of Otolaryngology, received the award for Best Overall Research for his presentation, “The Role of Postoperative Systemic Corticosteroids when Utilizing a Steroid-Eluting Spacer Following Endoscopic Sinus Surgery.”



Dr. Janice Austin, from the Section of General Surgery received the award for Best Poster, for her poster, “Diagnostic delays: A problem for young women with breast cancer?”



ATSSL

A new era of advanced surgical and medical training has begun with the opening of the surgical simulation lab, the first phase of the Advanced Technical Skills Simulation Laboratory (ATSSL).

The surgical simulation lab, the first of four components, is a state-of-the-art facility which gives doctors, students and other healthcare professionals the opportunity to sharpen their surgical skills, practice procedures such as bronchoscopies, and improve their teamwork and management skills.

“I’ve been in practice for 24 years now, and none of the procedures that we do, we were doing when I was a resident. And the procedures I was doing as a resident, I no longer do, or not the same way,” says Dr. Jacques Bouchard, an orthopaedic surgeon, professor at the University of Calgary, and ATSSL co-director.

As Dr. Bouchard points out, it is critical for health care providers to learn the newest procedures in the most

realistic way possible. Undergraduate students and post graduate residents will use the lab to learn and practice procedures, as well as for classes such as anatomy. The ATSSL also provides continuing education classes.

“We saw that the world was changing and that in education you had to be more hands on – you couldn’t practice on patients anymore,” he says about the lab which is jointly operated by the Alberta Health Services (AHS) eSIM Provincial Simulation Program and the University of Calgary.

While it’s been an auspicious beginning three more phases of the ATSSL need to be completed. One of the future components will be a clinical simulation lab which will house a number of computerized mannequins capable of simulating a variety of medical and clinical scenarios.

The initial challenge was to convince everyone building a larger lab would be a good idea, said Dr. Bouchard.



*The ATSSL provides a new learning experience for students, residents, and doctors alike.
Photo provided by Nicolle Amyotte*

Patient safety is very important and students and professionals alike can acquire new skills in a less stressful environment.

The ATSSL was a \$21-million project with faculty members, clinicians and departments contributing over \$500,000. \$4.9 million was provided by AHS and additional contributions came from the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine and the Calgary Health Trust.

The ATSSL was a joint project between Alberta Health Services, Calgary Health Trust and the University of Calgary Cumming School of Medicine. The lab was

a highly collaborative project, which proved to be a challenge due to the size and different concerns of each organization, said Dr. Bouchard.

It will be operated by both the AHS eSIM Provincial Simulation Program and the University of Calgary Cumming School of Medicine.

There will be four future phases to expand and improve the ATSSL lab, one of which will include a clinical simulation lab. This lab will have electronic mannequins that will be able to simulate a variety of medical conditions and scenarios.



Dr. Jacques Bouchard is the ATSSL co-director



*PGY1 Skills Course
Photo provided by Nicolle Amyotte*

Eye Tracking

Researchers are looking into a new training technique to help in acquiring surgical skills. The “Quiet Eye” training focuses on a technique used by athletes that allows them to focus with more precision. Both the University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services have researched this technique in the hopes that it will improve surgical training.

Dr. Joan Vickers, a University of Calgary kinesiologist observed the technique as a common trait amongst top athletes. The “Quiet Eye” involves focusing the gaze just before making an important movement such as putting a golf ball or shooting a hockey puck.

Dr. Adrian Harvey found that the Quiet Eye technique was not only common amongst athletes, but also amongst more experienced surgeons after comparing the eye movements of Calgary surgeons during thyroidectomy operations on cadavers.

Surgeons with more experience had similar Quiet Eye movements as top athletes, says Dr. Harvey. In turn, learning this technique may help students become experts faster.

The research showed that experienced surgeons would have the quiet eye focus for 2.5 seconds, where as less experienced surgeons focused for less than one second.

Part of the research also involved giving first-year surgical residents a one-hour training session on the quiet eye technique, and then having them tie a suture. When tying sutures, surgeons using the quiet eye technique performed better and made better quality knots, says Dr. Harvey.

“These are the first studies looking at telling the differences, then using it as a training tool. So, we intend to move this technique onto more complex longer operations rather than just parts of operations like tying the knots.”

The next step is to study quiet eye in a live operative setting. Researchers also want to make training available for medical students and residents, particularly in performing thyroidectomies and knot tying in order to determine whether the method can be applied universally to teach surgical residents surgical procedures.



Dr. Adrian Harvey

Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery

Dr. Artan Reso is the head of Calgary's Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery program (FLS) in Calgary, and takes a special interest in teaching these fundamental skills to surgery residents. The laparoscopic surgery is a minimally invasive approach to surgery often performed for gastrointestinal procedures. This usually results in an earlier recovery and less pain for the patient.

The fundamentals for this program were created in Montreal in the late 1990s by some of the leaders of the SAGES (Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons) organization, says Dr. Reso. These leaders recognized the need for the program to have the highest educational standards while demonstrating a basic level of competence. Since 2005, the FLS has been a joint program of SAGES and the American College of

Surgeons. He says it is strongly endorsed by CAGS and Royal College of Canada, with FLS certification now being needed as a requirement to write the American Board of Surgery exam.

Dr. Reso brought the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery Program to Calgary originally for the general surgery program. His goal is to expand this program and include other specialties or offer it to any surgeon looking to increase their knowledge and skill in laparoscopic surgery. The curriculum is not discipline or procedure specific, he says. Rather, it includes the general concepts and elements of decision-making related to equipment, technology, and physiology of laparoscopic surgery. At the same time, helps maintain the high level technical skill required in laparoscopic surgery.



*Students practice their laparoscopic surgical skills.
Photo provided by Katie Fisher*

Dr. Reso was originally a general surgery resident in Calgary, and later completed a fellowship in bariatric and laparoscopic surgery at the University of Toronto. He went on to become a part of the FLS program while doing his fellowship there. Dr. Reso later completed his Masters in Surgical Education at Imperial College in London, England.

“Bariatric surgery was a part of my training, and seeing bariatric patients flourish or do well after laparoscopic surgery is a very satisfying memory from my fellowship.”

After becoming a staff surgeon at the Rockyview General Hospital, he noticed that Calgary was missing such a well-known program and decided to work on building the program in Calgary and make it available to medical students and surgery residents. He takes a special interest in teaching the fundamentals of laparoscopic surgery now that the program is a part of the general surgery curriculum.

The program was designed to teach the fundamental knowledge and technical skills necessary for safe and effective laparoscopic surgery says Dr. Reso. Associated

metrics are able to measure the outcome of the educational intervention and verify the level of learning, making the program unique in how it establishes a level of basic competency.

“Our goal is to make surgeries less painful and less invasive to people,” says Dr. Reso.

Despite the need for such a program, a lack of space and instrumentation proved to be a challenge in bringing the program to Calgary. However, the new ATSSL lab provides the resources needed to set up the FLS program.

It’s set up to help residents and anyone else who wants to improve or maintain their cognitive and technical laparoscopic skills, says Dr. Reso. “We are in the process of applying to become a certified FLS testing centre.”

You’re used to a 3D environment on a 2D screen, and you need to adjust to the new dimension, says Dr. Reso. Eventually, it’ll become second nature with the proper training and practice during their residency and fellowship with the help of the FLS program. FLS is another tool that will be helpful in that process.



Dr. Artan Reso

Annual Softball Game

The Fourth Annual General Surgery Softball game was held August 7, 2014 at the Parkdale Community Centre.

Dr. Chad Ball originally suggested the event in 2010, as many programs in the United States would hold annual games or tournaments as a way for residents and fellows to get to know one another and foster community amongst the residents, fellows, and surgeons. Prior to 2010, an annual hockey game would be held for residents and surgeons.

In previous years, residents would play against the surgeons and staff, however, due to few staff turn out, this year the senior residents and staff played against the junior residents.

Much to the chagrin of the senior residents and staff, the juniors played better, winning the game and taking home the trophy.

“The juniors killed us,” said Dr. Ball.



New Faculty

Dr. Patrick Gooi – Section of Ophthalmology**Start Date:** May 1, 2014**Primary Site:** Rockyview General Hospital

Dr. Gooi will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Gooi is a graduate of the University of Toronto. He completed a Surgical Residency in ophthalmology at the University of Calgary. Dr. Gooi then subsequently completed a fellowship in glaucoma and advance anterior segment surgery at the University of Toronto. Dr. Gooi's research interests include the development and deployment of novel glaucoma surgical devices and lasers, as well as pharmacological methods to augment the healing process for current glaucoma procedures.

Dr. Graham Cobb**Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery****Start Date:** March 1, 2014**Primary Site:** Peter Lougheed Centre

Dr. Cobb will join the Department of Surgery as Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Cobb is a graduate of Dalhousie University. He completed his fellowship training in Head and Neck Oncology at the Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland, Oregon in 2011. Outside of medicine, Dr. Cobb enjoys cycling, skiing, and spending time with his family, and is looking forward to being a part of Calgary's medical community.

Dr. Shawn Higashi**Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery****Start Date:** January 1, 2014**Primary Site:** Peter Lougheed Centre

Dr. Higashi will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Higashi is a graduate of Dentistry from the University of Alberta. He completed a General Practice Residency at the

University of British Columbia. Dr. Higashi then subsequently completed fellowships in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Montefiore Medical Centre in New York and University of Oklahoma Health Science Centre in Oklahoma.

Dr. Stephen Hunt – Section of Orthopedic Surgery**Start Date:** July 1, 2014**Primary Site:** South Health Campus

Dr. Hunt joined the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Hunt is a graduate from Memorial University in St. Johns. He has since completed two fellowships – Orthopaedic Trauma and Foot and Ankle, in Calgary. Outside of medicine and his engineering research, he enjoys brewing the perfect cup of espresso while juggling with one-, three- and five-year-old kids.

Dr. Stephen French**Section of Orthopedic Surgery****Start Date:** September 1, 2011**Primary Site:** South Health Campus

Dr. French has joined the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. He is a graduate of the Memorial University of Newfoundland, and completed his residency at the University of Toronto. He subsequently completed the Fowler Kennedy Sports Medicine Fellowship, as well as a fellowship at the University of Toronto Complex Lower Extremity Reconstruction. Dr. French practiced in Thunder Bay at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine from 2006-2013. Outside medicine, he enjoys spending time with his wife and three daughters, as well as enjoying outdoor pursuits such as skiing, cycling, or anything to "tire out the children." Dr. French says he is delighted to be joining the University of Calgary Cumming School of Medicine.

Dr. Jeremy LaMothe
Section of Orthopedic Surgery
Start Date: September 1, 2014
Primary Site: Peter Lougheed Centre

Dr. LaMothe has joined the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. LaMothe is a graduate from the University of Calgary. He completed a fellowship in Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery (2013) and a fellowship in Foot and Ankle Surgery (2014), both at the Hospital for Surgery/Cornell, New York, New York. He enjoys running, mountain biking, cooking, home renovations, and vehicle moderations. Dr. LaMothe says he's happy to join the team.

Dr. Justin LeBlanc – Section of Orthopedic Surgery
Start Date: February 1, 2014
Primary Site: South Health Campus

Dr. LeBlanc joined the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. LeBlanc is a graduate of the University of Calgary, where he completed his MD in 2006. He completed an orthopaedic surgery residency in Calgary in 2012, and has since completed a shoulder reconstruction fellowship with the Hand and Upper Limb Centre/Fowler Kennedy in London Ontario, shoulder reconstruction and research fellowship with the Melbourne Orthopaedic Group, and a Masters of Science in Medical Education. Outside of medicine, Dr. LeBlanc enjoys long walks on the beach at sunset, travelling, snowboarding, hiking, river surfing and mountain biking.

Dr. Ryan Martin – Section of Orthopedic Surgery
Start Date: October 1, 2014
Primary Site: Foothills Medical Centre

Dr. Martin will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Martin is a graduate of the University of Ottawa, and completed his residency at the University of Calgary. He has subsequently completed two fellowships in Orthopaedic Traumatology at the Hospital for Special Surgery/Weil Cornell School of Medicine and in Sports Medicine

and Arthroscopy at the University of Toronto. Outside of medicine, he enjoys skiing, mountain biking, and hockey. He's proud to be joining the Department of Surgery this year.

Dr. Marlis Sabo – Section of Orthopedic Surgery
Start Date: July 1, 2014
Primary Site: South Health Campus

Dr. Sabo will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Sabo is a graduate of the Schulich School of Medicine in London, Ontario where she subsequently completed a Surgical Residency in Orthopedic Surgery. Dr. Sabo then completed a Master of Science in Medical Biophysics at the University of Western Ontario. She has also completed fellowships in hand and upper limb as well as adult foot and trauma.

Dr. Rajrishi Sharma
Section of Orthopedic Surgery
Start Date: July 1, 2014
Primary Site: South Health Campus

Dr. Sharma will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Sharma is a graduate of the University of Alberta. He completed a Surgical Residency in Orthopedics at the McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. Dr. Sharma then subsequently completed a fellowship in Adult Hip and Knee Reconstruction Arthroplasty at the University of Western Ontario in London. Dr. Sharma is currently completing a Master's in Health Research Methodology through McMaster University.

Dr. Alex Soroceanu
Section of Orthopedic Surgery
Start Date: September 2, 2014
Primary Site: Foothills Medical Centre

Dr. Soroceanu will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Soroceanu is a graduate of McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. She then completed a Master's of Public Health (MPH) – Quantitative Methods at Harvard University in Boston. She subsequently completed a Surgical Residency in Orthopedic Surgery at the Dalhousie University in Halifax. Dr. Soroceanu then completed a fellowship in spine surgery at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases / Lagone Medical Center, New York University, New York.

Dr. Jason Chau
Section of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
Start Date: September 1, 2013
Primary Site: Peter Lougheed Centre

Dr. Chau will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Chau is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan. He completed a fellowship and residency in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Alberta. Dr. Chau then subsequently completed a Master's of Public Health in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Alberta.

Dr. Monica Hoy
Section of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
Start Date: September 1, 2013 **Primary Site:** Peter Lougheed Centre

Dr. Hoy will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Hoy is a graduate of the University of Alberta. She completed a Surgical Residency in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Calgary. Dr. Hoy is currently in the process of obtaining her Master's of Science (Medical Education Specialization) from the University of Calgary.

Dr. Ramon Grover – Section of Plastic Surgery
Start Date: November 1, 2013
Primary Site: South Health Campus

Dr. Grover will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Grover is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan. He completed a Surgical Residency in plastic surgery at the University of Alberta. Dr. Grover then subsequently completed an adult craniomaxillofacial surgery fellowship in Toronto, Ontario and further training in pediatric craniomaxillofacial surgery and craniofacial distraction osteogenesis in Mexico City as well as in orthognathic surgery in Johannesburg, South Africa. He also completed extra training in aesthetic facial plastic surgery at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. The major emphasis of Dr. Grover's practice is craniomaxillofacial surgery while he also performs general reconstructive plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Dr. Frederick Loiselle – Section of Plastic Surgery
Start Date: November 1, 2013
Primary Site: South Health Campus

Dr. Loiselle will join the Department of Surgery as a Clinical Lecturer. Dr. Loiselle is a graduate of the University of Calgary. He subsequently completed a Combined Orthopaedic and Plastic surgery fellowship in Hand, Wrist and Microsurgery at UBC in 2013. Outside of medicine, climbing has been a passion of his for the past 24 years. He says he enjoys spending quality time with his family, as well as anything that gets him moving – sailing, biking, diving, paddling, surfing, hunting, hiking, and picking fruits and mushrooms.

New Residents



Dr. Sahil Kooner
University of Calgary
Orthopaedic Surgery
R1



Dr. Jeremy Kubik
University of Alberta
Orthopaedic Surgery
R1



Dr. Alexander Meldrum
University of Saskatchewan
Orthopaedic Surgery
R1



Dr. Spencer Montgomery
University of Calgary
Orthopaedic Surgery
R1



Dr. Cory Kwong
University of Alberta
Orthopaedic Surgery
R1



Dr. Neal Austin
University of Calgary
General Surgery
R1



Dr. Adriana De Visser
University of Calgary
General Surgery
R1



Dr. Ameer Farooq
University of Alberta
General Surgery
R1



Dr. Alison Laws
McMaster University
General Surgery
R1



Dr. Yiming Qian
University of Ottawa
General Surgery
R1



Dr. Ryan Tong
McMaster University
General Surgery
R1



Dr. Holly Smith
MacMaster University
Cardiac Surgery
R1



Dr. Rebecca Hartley
University of British
Columbia
Plastic Surgery
R1



Dr. Kody Johnson
University of Calgary
Plastic Surgery
R1



Dr. Justin Lui
University of Calgary
Otolaryngology
R1

New Residents Continued



Dr. Julie Lumingu
University of Ottawa
Otolaryngology
R1



Dr. Evgeniya Kazachenko
University of Alberta
Dentistry & Oral Health
R1



Dr. Tobias Meiszinger
McGill University
Dentistry & Oral Health
R1



Dr. Andrea Devrome
University of Calgary
Vascular Surgery
R1

New Extended Residents



Dr. Dana Mihalicz
Colorectal Surgery
University of Alberta
R6



Dr. Wiley Chung
Thoracic Surgery
University of Toronto
R6



Dr. Peter Graham
Surgical Oncology
University of
Saskatchewan
R6



Dr. Michael McCall
Surgical Oncology
University of Alberta
R6

New Fellows



Dr. Saleh Alsaifi
Peds. Ortho
Saudi Commission for
Health Specialties



Dr. Nathan Deis
Combined Spine
University of Alberta



Dr. Nicholas Desy
Trauma
McGill University
Montreal



Dr. Eoin Fenton
Combined Spine
Neurosurgery
HTS RCSI



Dr. Kanwaljeet Garg
Combined Spine
All India Institute of
Medical Sciences New
Delhi



Dr. Sebastian Gunkel
Hand & Wrist
University Hospital
Zurich, Switzerland



Dr. Parag Jaiswal
Joint Reconstruction
University College
London, England



Dr. Angus Jennings
Foot & Ankle
Christchurch Hospital
Christchurch, New
Zealand



Dr. Michael Loewan
Banff Sport Medicine
Dalhousie University
Halifax



Dr. Ian Lutz
Joint Reconstruction
University of
Saskatchewan



Dr. Brad Meulenkamp
Trauma
University of Ottawa



Dr. Ono Yohei
Upper Extremity
Hamamatsu Medical
Hospital, Japan



Dr. Narendra Ramisetty
Arthroscopy
Northern Deanery UK



Dr. Alex Stratton
Combined Spine
Memorial University of
Newfoundland St. John's



Dr. Tony Tsachtsarlis
Combined Spine
Prince Alexandra Hospital
Brisbane, QLD

New Fellows Continued



Dr. Junjie Liu
Peds Ophth/Adult
Strabismus
Liaoning Medical
University China



Dr. Colin Murray
Retina Ophth
MBCHB University of
Capetown; FRCOphth,
London



Dr. Darren Desantis
Urology
University of Ottawa



Dr. Ammar Almadani
Trauma Baghdad
University Iraq



Dr. Johanna Basa
Endocrine
Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA



Dr. Alexsander Bressan
HPB
State University of
Londrina, Brazil



Dr. Hoover Cooper
Upper GI & Laparoscopic
Universidad Nacional
Autonoma de Honduras



Dr. Carolina Fermin-Risso
Peds. Urology
Central University of
Venezuela



Dr. Marcio Barreto
Plastic Surgical Oncology
University of Pernambuco
- Recife Pernambuco,
Brazil

In Memory

Dr. Spencer McLean

1929-2014

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Spencer McLean, a final year Orthopaedic Surgery Resident in the Department of Surgery, on June 24, 2013 in the City of Calgary. Spencer was diagnosed recently with Stage IV renal cell carcinoma and succumbed to complications of the disease.

Spencer was from Fernie, BC. He completed both a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and a Master of Science in Exercise Physiology at the University of Calgary. He taught Anatomy and Physiology for 1 year at Selkirk College, near Nelson, BC before returning to Calgary for Medical School. He entered residency at the University of Calgary in the General Surgery program and after his first year transferred to Orthopaedic Surgery. He successfully completed his training program and received his Specialist Certificate in Orthopaedic Surgery. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada June 13, 2013.

Spencer was a person beloved by those around him. Spencer displayed respect for all members of the health care team. He made it a point to know each person's first name with whom he worked. He was compassionate with his patients and passionate in doing his best. He had the respect of his teachers while his peers revered him. Spencer was an avid skier and devoted Canucks fan. He participated in relief efforts, most recently in January of this year where he joined a medical group from Calgary travelling to Haiti. Spencer and his wife of 3 years, Christina Frangou, a freelance writer, chronicled the journey.

The events of the past two months with Spencer preparing for his exams, receiving a diagnosis of cancer, and striving to do his best to become an Orthopaedic Surgeon have been very emotional. The brave and graceful manner in which Spencer and Christina conducted themselves is inspirational. We are deeply saddened with Spencer's passing and also very grateful that we had the privilege to teach and learn with Spencer.



Photo provided by The Department of Surgery

In Memory

Dr. Wallace Elton Mydland

1929-2014

Dr. Mydland's career in surgery in Calgary spanned decades. He was consistently a leader in promoting excellence in clinical care and in improving the delivery of surgical services. Dr. Mydland was raised in High River and studied medicine at the University of Alberta. He completed a surgical residency at the Mayo Clinic and returned to Calgary in the 1950's, joining the Associate Clinic. He practiced at the Holy Cross, Foothills and the Rockyview Hospitals. He provided exemplary service throughout his career in numerous positions. He served the profession as the President of the Alberta Association of General Surgeons and the President of the Alberta Medical Association. He served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Medical Association and the Board of MD Investments. He was a founding member of the University of Calgary Medical School. He served as the President of the Associate Clinic, Chief of General Surgery at the Foothills Hospital and Chief of Surgery at the Calgary District Hospital Group which included the Holy Cross and Rockyview Hospitals. He was an avid traveler and was devoted to his family. We best remember him as our teacher and many of the Faculty currently practicing in Calgary owe their skills, in a large part, to Dr. Mydland's example and advice. He had outstanding clinical judgment and was a highly skilled technical surgeon. He achieved the rank of Clinical Professor in the Department of Surgery. He was appointed as Surgeon to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during her royal visit to Calgary. Dr. Mydland's many contributions will continue to have a lasting impact in Calgary for years to come.

Lovingly Remembered



Dr. Wallace Elton Mydland
February 24, 1929 - March 21, 2014

The Alumni Lectureship Series was established in 2007 to showcase the distinguished graduates of the University of Calgary surgical training programs. A surgeon, recognized for his or her achievements is invited to deliver this lecture, and is asked to participate in postgraduate educational activities while in Calgary. We were fortunate to have Dr. Carmen Brauer deliver the eighth lecture this year. For more about Dr. Brauer, please read the article, "Alumni Lecture" in this newsletter.

In 2007, seed money toward the lectureship was made available by Alberta Health Services and the University of Calgary. Our goal is to make this endeavor self-sustaining. Please consider a directed donation toward this effort. A tax receipt is issued.

If you know of any deserving candidates who you would like to nominate to give future Alumni Lectures, please feel free to contact me.



Dr. Neal Church
Photo provided by Dr. Neal Church

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The Department wishes to acknowledge all Department and community members who invested their time or contributed content to The Blade.

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Department of Surgery
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