

# THE BLADE

Department of Surgery Alumni Newsletter  
Issue 10: April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

Together, Leading and Creating Excellence in Surgical Care



Dr. Elijah Dixon, Section Chief  
Section of General Surgery

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## 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, to update your contact information. You may phone her at (403) 944-3151 or email her at [christine.bourgeois@ahs.ca](mailto:christine.bourgeois@ahs.ca). Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you.

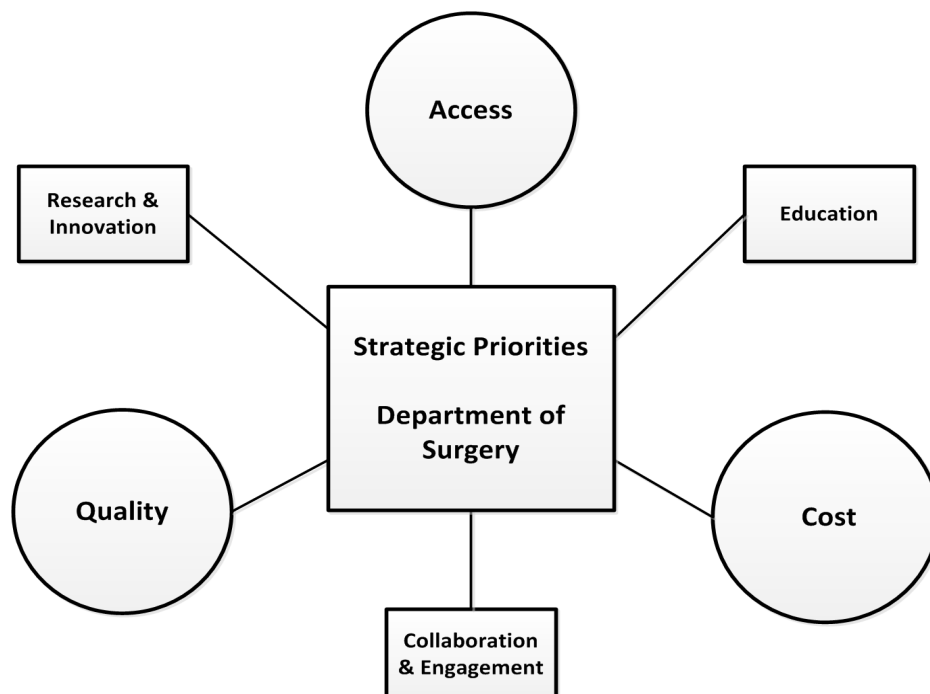
# A Message from Dr. Grondin

It is my pleasure to write to you as the new Head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Calgary. It has become increasingly apparent to me over the last few months that the Department has a wide breadth of dedicated members along with a management team that work extremely hard to support our mission.

Since accepting the position in early July, I have given considerable thought to the roles and responsibilities of the Department Head position and leadership team, as well as my own vision for the Department. This vision, to enhance the ability of surgeons to provide the highest quality patient care,

is founded on discussions with numerous leaders past and present as well as my understanding of the strategic goals of Alberta Health Services and the Cumming School of Medicine. This vision is based on three core values for improving outcomes; these being access, quality, and cost.

The goals of delivering timely access to care and advancing the quality of healthcare services while maintaining cost effectiveness will be supported by three additional strategic priorities which include, research and innovation, education, and collaboration and engagement.



Listed below are key initiatives in the strategic priorities plan that have been set into motion and which I look forward to sharing with you in greater detail in the near future.

#### **Access**

- Hire OR flow specialists to seek efficiencies in operating room utilization.
- Participate in the planning of the new cancer center.
- Develop additional metrics for accurately measuring OR utilization and capacity.

#### **Quality**

- Support implementation of innovative models of service delivery where deemed appropriate.
- Develop a comprehensive QA/QI plan by establishing an Office of Surgical Quality.

#### **Cost**

- Support the implementation of an academic alternative relationship plan.

#### **Research and Innovation**

- Review the strategic goals and resource allocation of the Office of Surgical Research.
- Recruit and support successful surgical investigators.
- Support the development of promising surgical technologies.

#### **Education**

- Review the structure and resource allocation of the Office of Surgical Education.
- Enhance the global clinical outreach programs.

#### **Collaboration and Engagement**

- Create an electronic directory for department members.
- Revitalize the departmental internet and social media presence.
- Re-engage faculty by restructuring activities such as Grand Rounds and business meetings.

The implementation of these strategic priorities will be challenging and require additional information as well as much consultation and engagement with faculty and AHS/CSM stakeholders. These goals must be developed in the context of shifting budgetary considerations and will require flexibility, teamwork, persistence, patience, and innovation for success. I look forward with optimism and enthusiasm to working together over the course of my term toward the achievement of these goals.



Dr. Sean Grondin  
Professor and Head, Department of Surgery  
Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary  
Calgary Zone, Clinical Department Head  
Alberta Health Services



# Highlights

## APPOINTMENTS

**Dr. Artan Reso (General Surgery)**  
Director, Office of Surgical Education

**Dr. Duncan Nickerson (Plastic Surgery)**  
Co-Director of Quality and Safety for Surgical Services, Calgary Zone

**Dr. Lloyd Mack (General Surgery)**  
Chair, Post Graduate Surgical Training Committee

**Dr. Jeff Way (General Surgery)**  
Department of Surgery Representative on the Physician Assisted Death (PAD) Provincial Steering Committee

**Dr. Andrew Crichton (Ophthalmology)**  
Appointed Chair Block Booking Committee effective December 1, 2015. Thanks to Dr. Jeff Way as outgoing Block Booking Committee Chair

**Dr. Borys O. Hoshowsky (Otolaryngology)**  
Medical Staff President at Rockyview General Hospital

**Dr. Marcia Clark (Orthopedics)**  
Appointed ATSSL Medical Director

**Dr. Justin LeBlanc (Orthopedics)**  
Appointed Director, Surgical Foundations

**Dr. Carol Hutchison (Orthopedics)**  
Appointed Director of the Education Portfolio

**Appointed Research Portfolio Co-Directors (Orthopedics):**

**Dr. Paul Salo:** responsibilities include Faculty research and liaising with the McCaig Institute

**Dr. Marlis Sabo:** responsibilities include trainee research

**Dr. Simon Goldstein (Pediatric Surgery)**  
Appointed Clinical Knowledge Leader (CKL) for Surgery from the Clinical Knowledge and Content Management (CKCM) Service

**Dr. Indraneel Datta (General Surgery)**  
Fees Representative for Alberta Medical Association

## PROMOTIONS

**Promoted to Professor**  
Dr. Donald Buie (General Surgery)  
Dr. Elijah Dixon (General Surgery)  
Dr. Lloyd Mack (Surgical Oncology)  
Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle (Oncology)  
Dr. Sean Grondin (Thoracics)

**Received Tenure**  
Dr. May Lynn Quan  
(General Surgery - Associate Professor)

**Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure**  
Dr. Elizabeth Oddone-Paolucci (Surgery)

**Promoted to Clinical Professor**  
Dr. James Powell (Orthopedics)

**Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor**  
Dr. Kevin Carlson (Urology)  
Dr. Richard Baverstock (Urology)  
Dr. Adrian Harvey (General Surgery)  
Dr. Luke Rudmik (Otolaryngology)

**Promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor**  
Dr. Stephen French (Orthopedics)

# Highlights Continued

## AWARDS

### Major Clinical Awards 2015

Excellence in Research:

Dr. Chad Ball (General Surgery)

Excellence in Education:

Dr. Marcia Clark (Orthopedics)

Excellence in Leadership:

Dr. Beth Lange (Otolaryngology)

### Dr. Artan Reso (General Surgery)

General Surgery Residents award for Educator of the Year

### Dr. Walley Temple (Surgical Oncology)

Received Award of Merit at the Alberta Association of General Surgeons Meeting for his work leading Cancer Surgery Alberta and completes role as Clinical Leader of Cancer Surgery Alberta (CSA)

### Dr. Garnette Sutherland (Neurosciences)

Awarded the NASA Exceptional Technology Achievement Award

### Dr. Christopher Armstrong (General Surgery)

Awarded the PGY1 Clinical Educator of the Year Rockyview General Hospital

### 2014-2015 Gold Star Awards for Teaching in Clerkship awarded by the Class of 2015

Dr. Lea Austen (General Surgery)

Dr. Indraneel Datta (General Surgery)

Dr. John Graham (General Surgery)

Dr. John Heine (General Surgery)

Dr. Christopher Dusik (Resident - Orthopedics)

Dr. Mark Lipson (Resident - General Surgery)

Dr. Kenton Rommens (Resident - General Surgery)

### 2015 Star Educators - Rockyview General Hospital

Dr. Chris Armstrong (General Surgery)

Dr. Artan Reso (General Surgery)

Dr. Martin Duffy (Urology)

Dr. John Graham (General Surgery)

### Dr. Ian Anderson (General Surgery)

2015 PGY1 Course Instructor, Commended for his many hours of participation as a preceptor and examiner

### Dr. Marcia Clark (Orthopedics)

Recipient of the 2016 Canadian Association for Medical Education Certificate of Merit Award

## GRANTS AND RESEARCH

### Dr. Michael Monument (Orthopedics)

Awarded the Department of Surgery Research and Education Development Fund for "Sarcoma lung metastases: Identification of targetable cooperative signaling pathways in tumor and lung."  
Amount: \$75,000

### Dr. Luke Rudmik (Otolaryngology)

Received the MSI Grant - \$67,000 over two years

### Dr. Luke Rudmik (Otolaryngology Surgery) and

### Dr. Paule Poulin (Department of Surgery)

2014 Alberta Innovates Health Solutions Knowledge to Action Grant. **Title:** Building Capacity for Evidence-Informed Decision-Making around the Introduction of New Technologies: Rolling out the 'Evidence Decision Support Program'

### Dr. Sean Grondin (Thoracics)

Awarded the Department of Surgery Research and Education Development Fund for: "The Anticipatory stress in residents with regard to job availability: a cross sectional study" Amount: \$25,000

# Highlights Continued

**Drs. Alicia Ponton-Carss, Marcia Clark and Andrea Vallevand**

Awarded the 2015 University of Calgary Teaching and Learning Grant

**Project title:** A Team Training Program for Surgical Residents Utilizing the TeamSTEPPS Curriculum.

Award amount: \$7,500

**Dr. Kevin Carlson (Urology)**

AIHS Community Engagement and Conference Grant Review Committee awarded \$4,000 towards: The Inaugural Meeting of the Canadian Functional Urology Network

**Dr. Kevin Carlson (Urology)**

2015 QI initiative funded through the joint sponsorship of Calgary Zone Medical Affairs and the provincial Chief Medical Officer entitled: A patient-centred discharge approach for overactive bladder

**Drs. Richard Baverstock and Kevin Carlson (Urology and vesia [Alberta Bladder Centre])**

Have been awarded a two-year Movember Discovery Grant from Prostate Cancer Canada. Funding from this two-year award will be used to study the effects of prostate cancer treatment on overactive bladder (OAB)

**Dr. Prism Schneider (Orthopedics)**

Dose-response and Post-traumatic Joint Contracture abstract selected as one of the 32 New Investigator Recognition Award finalists for the 2016 Orthopedic Research Society

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEACHING

Gold Medal for teaching contributions in Course 2, the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence and recognition for service as the Course Chair for Course 2 - MSK, Derm 2017: MDCN 360

**Dr. Carol Hutchison (Orthopedics)**

Gold Medal for teaching contributions in Course 8

**Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (Pediatric General Surgery)**

Silver Medal for teaching contributions in Medical Skills 2 and Silver Medal and Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence for teaching excellence in Integrative Course 2016

**Dr. Stephanie Dotchin (Ophthalmology)**

Completed Teaching Scholars in Medicine Program

**Dr. Stephanie Dotchin (Ophthalmology)**

**Bronze Medal for teaching contributions in Course 2**

Dr. Eldridge Batuyong (Orthopedics)

Dr. Rick Buckley (Orthopedics)

Dr. Michael Monument (Orthopedics)

Dr. Ewen Jones (Resident – Orthopedics)

Dr. Christopher Nielsen (Resident – Orthopedics)

Dr. Margaret Joan Wheat-Hozack (Resident – Orthopedics)

**Bronze Medal for teaching contributions in Course 6 and the Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence**

Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (Pediatric General Surgery)

**Bronze Medal for teaching contributions in Medical Skills 2**

Dr. Andrew Wong (Pediatric General Surgery)

**Bronze Medal for teaching contributions in Course V Neurosciences, Aging and Special Senses**

Dr. William Fletcher (Ophthalmology)

# Highlights Continued

## **Bronze Medal for Teaching Contributions in Introduction to Clinical Practice for the Class of 2017**

Dr. Ian Anderson (General Surgery)  
Dr. Chris Armstrong (General Surgery)  
Dr. William Buie (General Surgery)  
Dr. Adrian Harvey (General Surgery)  
Dr. John Kortbeek (General Surgery)  
Dr. Steven Lopushinsky (Pediatric General Surgery)  
Dr. Kody Johnson (Resident, Plastic Surgery)

## **Associate Dean's Letter of Excellence for teaching contributions in Communications (Year 2) 2016**

Dr. Donald McPhalen (Plastic Surgery)

## **Pre Clerkship Committee and the Applied Evidence Based Medicine (AEBM) Course Committee would like to thank the following for their contributions:**

Dr. Chad Ball (General Surgery)  
Dr. Shamir Chandarana (Otolaryngology)  
Dr. Elijah Dixon (General Surgery)  
Dr. Ian Le (Orthopedics)  
Dr. Patrick Mitchell (Ophthalmology)  
Dr. May Lynn Quan (General Surgery)  
Dr. William Stell (Ophthalmology)  
Dr. Andrew Wong (Pediatric General Surgery)

## **Dr. Norm Schachar (Orthopedics)**

Teaching Scholars in Medicine Program  
(5 sessions Microteaching with Standardized Patients)

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

### **Dr. Norm Schachar (Orthopedics)**

"The Department, a Surgeon's Memories...Before I Forget" has been submitted to the 2016 Alberta Literary Competition for the Wilfrid Eggleston Award for Nonfiction

### **Dr. Chad Ball (General Surgery)**

Canadian Journal of Surgery Top 10 viewed articles  
**10. Damage control resuscitation: history, theory and technique.** Ball, Chad. Can J Surg 2014;57(1):55-60 \*Based on page views on PubMed Central of research, reviews, commentaries and discussions in surgery. Updated Jan. 19, 2015.

### **Dr. Mauricio Monroy (Transplant Surgery)**

Article published in the New England Journal of Medicine entitled: **"Gestational Hypertension and Preeclampsia in Living Kidney Donors?"**

### **Dr. Vince Gabriel and Burn Program**

47th annual meeting of the American Burn Association - Named one of the seven most important articles to appear in the journal Burns in 2014 by Dr. Stephen Wolf (editor).

**"Lindsay Burnett, Clinical Educator for Burns/Plastics, together with her collaborators E. Carr, D. Tapp, S. Raffin-Bouchal and Drs. Jenny Horch, Jeff Biernaskie, and Vince Gabriel.** Patient Experiences Living with Split Thickness Skin Grafts (Burns, 2014 Sept, 40(6):1097-1105)"

**Supervisor Dr. Vince Gabriel**, research student Sam Su, and Sarthak Sinha's poster was named Best in Category. Evaluating the validity and reliability of 3-D imaging for the non-invasive volume assessment of hypertrophic scar, was named Best in Category.



# Alumni Lecture



Dr. Elijah Dixon (Section Chief, General Surgery) was the guest lecturer at the Department of Surgery Alumni Lecture that took place on March 4, 2016 at the FMC Auditorium. The topic discussed by Dr. Dixon was titled, "Surgical Trials and Tribulations." His lecture was based off of his own experiences from clinical trial research he had personally conducted and how innovation and creativity had allowed him to overcome the difficulties faced through his clinical research stages. "You will often see people present their research and you'll go 'wow that's amazing!' They [researcher] make it seem like everything flowed through perfectly," Dr. Dixon says. "But I wanted to give an honest, pragmatic, overview of what it's like to do research."

Dr. Dixon's lecture focused on both the good and bad aspects that comes with being a researcher. He also talked about the struggles a researcher faces while undergoing clinical trials as well as the amazing research that has come forward as a result of overcoming those many struggles. Reaching an obstacle that prevents a researcher from moving forward in their clinical trials is not something a researcher should panic about, rather, they should think innovatively as to figuring out solutions that would work in their situation according to their research, Dr. Dixon encourages.

One of the biggest benefits we have in Canada, Dr. Dixon explains, is the centralization of healthcare within our

universal healthcare system. As a result, we have a number of high volume center's that are involved in producing extremely high quality work and research.

"Absolutely, you're going to have roadblocks to your research but you can't get discouraged or quit. Every stage isn't going to be perfect-you have to persevere."

Canada is lucky in the sense that other countries, such as the United States, do not have the same access to material and resources as we do, therefore, they are somewhat limited to producing high quality research that can be produced as a result from those high volume centers.

One of the problems Dr. Dixon mentions in his lecture is related to the high volume care we have in Canada. Sometimes, we take that high level of care for granted and do not use the high throughput we are doing as a substrate for clinical research that we should be doing in the first place. Therefore, we cannot answer some of the crucial questions researchers want to answer.

The ideal situation Dr. Dixon believes, would consist of all patients that flow through the surgical department, offered or entered onto some sort of clinical trial and having dedicated academics coming forward with unique research.

After the lecture, Dr. Dixon was pleased to have a number of people come up and ask him questions relating to their own research and obstacles they face while also brainstorming solutions to overcoming those roadblocks to complete their research.

Dr. Dixon believes he has only just started the conversation between researchers finding solutions to the roadblocks within their personal clinical trials through innovation, but he concludes by giving a last piece of advice for everyone, "you can work through your struggles and come up with solutions to whatever it is you're facing-it's just really persevering, being tenacious, not giving up, and finding solutions to your problems."

## 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Surgeons' Day



*Dr. Sean Grondin, Internal Judge*

The Department of Surgery held their 34th Annual Surgeons' Day Research Symposium on June 10, 2016, at the Libin Theatre on Foothills Campus.

The annual Surgeons' Day is a day to acknowledge and honor the accomplishments of fellows, surgeons, residents, and medical students.

The symposium was divided into three sessions, led by the session moderators; Dr. Sean McFadden, Dr. Prism Schneider, and Dr. Rob Harrop. A broad range of topics from residents in year one to year five presented on recent advances in surgical research, including topics on recent advances in surgical research, including topics such as; "Anatomy-Specific Virtual Reality Simulation in Temporal Bone Dissection: Utility and Impact on Surgeon Confidence," "Early versus late tracheostomy: A cost-effectiveness analysis," and "Evaluating the Utility of the Lateral Elbow Radiograph in Articular Olecranon Reduction: An Anatomic and Radiograph Study."

This year, the external judge and McPhedran Lecturer was Dr. Thomas Waddell, Chair of Thoracic Surgery, division head of Thoracic Surgery at University of Toronto, University Health Network, and Toronto General Hospital. The title of his lecture was, "What a long strange trip it's been-regenerative medicine approaches to lung and airway disease."

The second co-judge and McMurtry Lecturer was Dr. Sean Grondin, Clinical Professor of Surgery, section of Thoracic Surgery, University of Calgary. The title of his lecture was, "Tips For Successfully Starting and Finishing A Research Project."

After the lunch period, a poster review was led by Dr. Andrew Graham.

The evening consisted of an awards ceremony hosted at the Gasoline Alley Museum at Heritage Park.

The Distinguished Service Awards are presented to surgeons from each Calgary zone, however, this year; only two surgeons received this award. Dr. Gerhard Kiefer from Alberta Children's Hospital and Dr. John Donaghy from Peter Lougheed Centre were the recipients for this year's award.



*Dr. Thomas Waddell, External Judge*





The Best Overall Research Resident Award was received by Dr. Alison Laws, section of General Surgery for her topic on "Intra-operative margin assessment in breast-conserving surgery: A population-level comparison of techniques."

Honourable Mention-Overall Research Resident Award was presented to Dr. Arezoo Astanehe, section of Plastic Surgery for her research on the topic of, "An enhanced recovery after surgery pathway for autologous breast reconstruction decreases postoperative pain, nausea, and length of hospital stay."

The Best Poster Resident Award was received by Dr. Sarah Lai, section of Paediatric General Surgery, for her presentation on "Medium chain triglycerides are more potent than long chain triglycerides in inducing jejunal adaptation after massive ileocecal resection in rats."

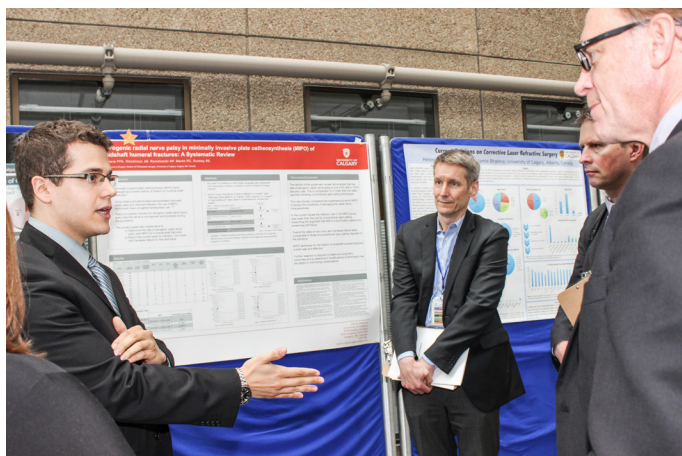
The 2016 Educator of the Year award was presented to Dr. Duncan Nickerson who was unable to attend; therefore, Dr. Rob Harrop accepted it on his behalf. The 2016 Ectopic Educator of the Year Award was given to Dr. Mike Dunham.

Dr. Chad Ball was the recipient of this year's 2016 Surgical Innovation Award for the topic of, "The introduction of a novel energy instrument for performing elective liver resections and arresting ongoing hemorrhage in severely injured patients." The McPedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching was presented to Dr. Marcia Clark.

There were also three award categories for Residents; including, Best Overall Research, Honourable Mention-Overall Research, and Best Poster.



To conclude the day, a live band performance by the Not Dave Trio took place. The Performers included Drs. Peter Rye, Devon Livingstone, and Adam Schofield, featuring Dr. Ikennah Browne on Sax/Percussion and Dr. Don Buie on keys; allowing members to dance their way into the night.



*Residents present their posters after the lunch break.*



# Surgeons' Day Awards



*Dr. John Donaghy from Peter Lougheed Centre received the Distinguished Service Award.*



*Dr. Mike Dunham received the 2016 Ectopic Educator of the Year Award.*



*The Best Overall Research Resident Award was received by Dr. Alison Laws, Section of General Surgery.*



*Honourable Mention-Overall Research Resident Award was presented to Dr. Arezoo Astanehe, Section of Plastic Surgery.*



*Dr. Chad Ball was the recipient of this year's 2016 Surgical Innovation Award.*



*The McPedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching was presented to Dr. Marcia Clark.*







# Non-Heart Beating Donors

Canada ranks one of the lowest in organ donations in the world-according to the annual report for Canadian Organ Replacement Register. Canada has 15 donors per one million people, and due to the drop in organ donation, medical associations are looking to examine non-heart beating donors (NHBD) as a way to increase their organ pools in Canada.

Did you know that one organ and tissue donor can benefit up to 80 people as a result of their donation?

Yet sadly, Canada's deceased organ donation ranks amongst one of the lowest in the world, 15 donors per million people -coming in behind United Kingdom at 49 per million, Spain at 34 per million, and United States of America at 26 per million<sup>1</sup> in 2013.

What does deceased organ donation mean?

Deceased organ donation is the process by which an individual decides to donate their organs upon death. Once they undergo brain death -irreversible complete loss of all brain function- their organs are still kept alive through a ventilator.

The next step involves a complete medical history check, along with blood work and ultrasounds to determine the health of the organs and ultimately, whether or not they are viable for use.

In 2014, about 278 people died in the hospital waiting for an organ for transplantation in Canada, and the numbers keep rising every year little by little<sup>2</sup>.

Deceased organ donations are low due to a variety of reasons including; prevention of injury, lack of facilities, and dangerously low live organ donors.

In an interview with Dr. Anastasio Salazar, the Section Chief of Transplant Surgery in Southern Alberta, he conveyed some of the reasons regarding the low cadaver donation rate in Canada. Compared to other countries, Canada's Public Health regulations are compulsive and in this respect, there is a permanent campaign to prevent accidents to avert injuries from accidents through the use of tools like seat belts, helmets, etc. These tools are used to prevent individuals from having irreversible brain injuries.

Nevertheless, these policies and regulations of preventing injuries need to be seen in a positive light; but at the same time, this is the very reason for the urgent need to implement the use of allowing NHBD practice to launch.

Another reason for a lack of deceased organ donation deals with the lack of resources. Individuals have to express their desire for donating their organs. Although interestingly, Dr. Salazar points out, people in Canada are more willing to donate their organs compared to other countries.

The problem, however, still remains. With demands of organs such as; kidney, liver, lungs, heart, and pancreas transplants in high demand, the option of selecting another method of obtaining organs from donors is increasing.

The alternative option besides deceased organ donations is known as non-heart beating donors. The NHBD concept was not socially recognized or culturally accepted until very recently, as recent as 2005.

"Non-heart beating donor was the way cadaveric transplants started many, many years ago... it sounds modern...but actually, that's the way cadaver organ transplant originated," clarifies Dr. Salazar.

A non-heart beating donor is a human being who has not reached the point of brain death and cannot be declared as brain dead either. In this case, the individual is still a person and not a cadaver.

Dr. Salazar stresses that although donation after cardiac arrest or non-heart beating donor is perceived by medical personnel and the public as a "new and innovative procedure," this is not the case. Ever since cadaver organ donation started, it was through the practice of using non-heart beating donors. Since the initiation of cadaver organ donation, the concept of Brain Death was not yet clearly defined, therefore, the consequences of all organs from cadaver donors were taken after the heart stopped.

It was not until the late 60's and the beginning of 70's in the 20th century, with the adoption of the "Human Gift Act" in the U.S. (followed soon by other countries) when the concept of Brain Death was adopted and donation with heart beating donors for cadaver organs started.

Since this modality permitted the donation of the heart, which was not possible with NHBD and in fact to make heart transplantation possible, was the motive behind the implementation of the concept of Brain Death as a valid definition of death for the procurement of organs for transplantation. Brain dead donors will soon be replacing NHBD.

This information begs the question, why NHBD donation was reintroduced.

The reason behind this concept came about from patients with irreversible brain injury. They do not reach the criteria of brain death and therefore, their organs cannot be procured for donation. However, life support of these patients is discontinued and their organs cannot be used for donation or transplantation despite the individuals or the family's' wishes. To make this decision possible, NHBD were reintroduced.

The ethical debate surrounding NHBD has been ignited for decades, both sides claiming valid

points. The introduction of NHBD in Southern Alberta is important for three major reasons. One being, despite the fact of optimizing live kidney donation to a maximum in the last five years, there are still people dying in dialysis without the opportunity for a kidney transplant.

Secondly, although the NHBD program will not bring a substantial number of new organs from donations, it will however, contribute to an already scarce resource.

Thirdly, the NHBD program will increase the organ pool in kidneys and livers, but this will result in an indirect effect in increasing the cadaver donors from the brain death pool. This is because it will inevitably consider patients which were eliminated as candidates previously without considering them as a potential donor. In these circumstances, some cases will progress to brain death and they will then become normal cadaver donors. This may in fact not only contribute to a higher degree to the pool of organs than NHBD, but will also indirectly benefit other programs as Heart, Lung, Liver, and Pancreas transplants.

In all, the adoption of NHBD in southern Alberta is good news not only for kidney or liver recipients but for the entire transplant community in general and we should welcome it.

The NHBD practice has been accepted historically since ancient times and also accepted by modern society in the initiation of cadaver donation for transplantation. If society is educated regarding these facts, not only will it be better understood by the layman, but the practice would also be encouraged to continue.

Dr. Salazar clearly defines that the process of obtaining organs from a non-heart beating donor includes several-but fitting steps.

For NHBD, surgeons wait until the heart stops and death comes. After the individual is declared dead, the surgeon will then collect the organs. If the organs were to be harvested for use at a later time, they go through the same preservation processes

as any other donation, just with a few logistical tweaks. Focus would be to keep the health of the organ in mind and try to transplant the organ as soon as possible.

In theory, the more brain dead patients society has, the less society would need to rely on living ones.

It may sound morbid, but non-heart beating patients cannot be tracked. Their health status is announced in the hospital, therefore, there is no definite way of knowing who will become a non-heart beating or brain dead donor.

The future of NHBD is something surgeons can only predict, however, both the pros and cons of accepting or declining this practice needs to be weighted and compared.

The byproduct [allowing the use of non-heart beating donors in Canada] which is increasing cadaver donations, will have a huge impact on the waiting list anticipates Dr. Salazar.

The future is still unknown, so far, there has never been an excess of organs. Therefore, there will still be an increasing demand for organs. With donations from the NHBD it will directly benefit kidney and liver recipients and indirectly (because of increase of organ donation in general) also recipients from heart, lung and pancreas.

"We performed approximately 40 kidney transplants five years ago. With the optimization of live donation in 2015, we reached 80. Finally, with the implementation of the NHBD program we project to reach 100 transplantations in the next two years from direct and indirect contributions from the NHBD program." Dr. Salazar explains, "Southern Alberta needs to adopt this practice as soon as possible."



*Dr. Anastasio Salazar, Transplant Surgery Section Chief*

<sup>1</sup>Canadian Organ Replacement Register Annual Report: 2004-2013.

<sup>2</sup><http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/donation-contribution-eng.php#a21>



# Annual Surgery Retreat

The annual Department of Surgery retreat took place on April 21-22, 2016, at the Kinnear Centre for Creativity and Innovation, The Banff Centre, Banff, AB.

The retreat focused on two broad topics; conflict of interest and the relationship between the surgeons and industry - especially in regard to surgical education, and secondly, innovation and entrepreneurship in surgery.

Dr. Jacques Bouchard was in charge of organizing the first half which dealt with conflict of interest and Dr. Robert Bray was in charge of the second portion - entrepreneurship and innovation topics.

The retreat also included short presentations on the different aspects of conflict, as well as a debate including two scenarios. The debaters included; Dr. Ian Anderson, Dr. Neel Datta, Dr. Breanne Everett, Dr. Oliver Bathe, and Rose Carter.

After the debate, there was an animated discussion in which the audience gave their opinions as to where they stood on certain topics.

On the innovation side of the retreat, topics such as why the department should be involved in commercializing ideas and technologies were discussed through presentations and personal experiences. The short presentations covered all steps - from the conception of an idea surgeons have to making successful pitches and gaining financial support from their innovations.

Each presentation pushed participants to think outside of the box and challenged them to reach their full potential within their respected fields in the industry.

The objective of the sessions was to make this retreat less of a work activity and more of an informative and educational retreat compared to previous year's retreats. This objective was fulfilled as members gave favorable and entertaining feedback, ending the retreat on positive experiences and minds racing for exciting new ideas.



# Lights, Camera, Action!

**I**n 2014, TELUS Spark teamed up with the Rockyview General Hospital to broadcast live surgery from the operating room to the students at the TELUS Science Centre once every month.

The audience consists of junior high and high school students, all eager to watch closely as the surgical procedures take place before their very eyes.

The surgery is broadcasted through cameras from two different places. One camera is embedded just atop the surgical field and secondly, along the walls of the operating room. Therefore, students from the science center can easily ask questions and they will receive answers in real-time.

Dr. Jason Werle, Orthopedic Surgeon and site chief of Rockyview General Hospital explains, "The response [from students] has been really quite positive in that they ask good questions, they're interested, they learn not just about surgery and surgeons - but also about nursing, anesthesia, and the different roles that support the operating room."

Since the launch back in 2014, there have been 25 surgeries broadcasted and completed live. Currently, the only types of live surgeries broadcasted are of orthopedic and total knee replacement surgeries. The reason behind this decision was due to the following.

"It's a fairly reproducible surgery, people don't tend to die during that surgery, we don't tend to have any complications...very amenable to this type of broadcast," tells Dr. Werle.

Dr. Werle recognizes that other science center's broadcast more complex surgeries such as heart surgeries, but he hopes this program can expand just as much in the future.

When considering which factors contribute to determine the live broadcasting of a patients' surgery, the health of the individual is taken into consideration.

Factors such as; risk of complication, body size, and overall health are looked at carefully.

Once a patient is selected, surgeons obtain the consent from the individual. The patient is phoned ahead of time, and also asked to sign paper consent to broadcast the surgery. In the end, the identity of the patients remains anonymous.

But due to the overwhelming positive response and demand from students and teachers, TELUS spark is looking at expanding this collaborative; through a variety of newer and more frequent broadcasting of surgeries.

The new surgery types being considered for this initiative include some urology surgeries, robotic partial nephrectomy procedures, and ophthalmology and surgery of the eye.

Although simultaneously, consideration of logistical and technological measures such as camera placement and audio techniques need to be carefully analyzed while considering the addition of these surgeries and the cost associated with this proposal.

Popularity along with education is one of the biggest motivators in launching new surgeries with the TELUS spark collaborative program.

"These programs align well with their curriculum so we know that through their study of the eye in high school, it fits nicely with the curriculum...there's a lot of physics involved as well so it ties in with other courses and if we can introduce people to careers in healthcare, it's going to grow. We're going to need people to be excited about careers in healthcare," Dr. Werle concludes.

The broadcasting of ophthalmology and urology surgeries are still in the infancy stage but will shortly be launched - because students and teachers are ready to mark their calendars!

## New Faculty 2015/16

### Dr. Karim Manji - Section of Podiatric Surgery (PLC)



Dr. Karim Manji joined the Department of Surgery in June 2015 in the section of Podiatric Surgery. He was born and raised in Calgary, Alberta. His decision to go in to medicine is largely attributed to the fact that he values giving back and positively contributing to the community in which he lives, instilled in Dr. Manji as a child through his family, community and Canadian society. Dr. Manji received an introduction to the medical field as a young teenager, volunteering in Grade 9, as he drove the snack cart from the Take Ten around Peter Lougheed Hospital. Graduating from Western Canada High School, Dr. Manji pursued his undergraduate studies in biological sciences at the University of Alberta. He completed his Podiatric Medical School at Kent State University, United States. Dr. Manji completed his Foot and Ankle Surgery residency at Long Beach Memorial Medical Centre in Long Beach California, United States. Becoming part of the Podiatric Surgery section at the University of Calgary has been a significant achievement for Dr. Manji. This appointment has provided him with the opportunity to serve the community and further his passion for research.

With the section, Dr. Manji along with five others, staff the Diabetic Foot and Limb Preservation Center at the Peter Lougheed Hospital, serving Southern Alberta's diabetic population to reduce the impact and rate of lower limb amputations. On his spare time he enjoys playing badminton, golf, going for walks, and cooking. Dr. Manji hopes to one day, look back and say the Podiatric Surgery section had a significant impact on reducing lower limbs amputations in Southern Alberta and now serves as a model for the standard of care throughout Canada.

### Dr. Michael Fielden - Section of Ophthalmology (RGH)



Dr. Michael Fielden joined the Department of Surgery in January 2015 in the section of Ophthalmology. Dr. Fielden was born in Germany and raised in Calgary. He always knew he wanted to be in the medical field as he had been drawn to the idea of wanting to make a positive impact on people. Dr. Fielden's role models include his fellowship directors who encouraged him to seek excellence in his medical practice while pursuing other goals in regard to research and education. As a result of his hard work and dedication, Dr. Fielden has received the opportunity to give numerous talks to national and international ophthalmology societies, especially in Europe, South America, and Asia. By helping maintain vision of patients, Dr. Fielden gets to support his patients in giving them the reason to keep driving, to keep breathing,

and continue being independent members of society. Dr. Fielden completed his undergraduate studies at Queen's University in Ottawa, followed by M.D. at the University of Toronto. He pursued his residency at the Eye institute at the University of Ottawa and completed his fellowship at the University of Calgary. One of the most important lessons Dr. Fielden learned through his education is to keep an international perspective while tackling health problems. Outside of medicine, Dr. Fielden likes to enjoy hobbies such as; soccer and skiing. His family consists of his wife, a family physician in Calgary and three beautiful children aged; ten, eight, and three, which he enjoys spending his spare time with. Dr. Fielden looks forward to continuing his clinical practice to ensure a large number of patients benefit from excellent optical care. His future objectives include carrying on his international collaboration with the University of Calgary, and to continue work education with the residency.



## New Faculty 2015/16

### Dr. Alex Rezansoff - Section of Orthopedic Surgery (PLC)



Doctor Alex Rezansoff joined the Department of Surgery in August 2015 in the section of Orthopedic Surgery. Dr. Rezansoff was born in Calgary and moved to Kelowna, B.C., at age nine. He moved back to Calgary to attend University. Growing up, Dr. Rezansoff was inspired by his neighbor in Kelowna, who was a retired military surgeon, having heard the stories of the surgeon working during World War II intrigued Dr. Rezansoff to pursue a career in surgery. Being inspired in the subjects of math and science from a young age, Dr. Rezansoff sought an undergraduate degree in General Science and let his passions lead the way. As a result, he discovered medicine as the best option and ultimately, it led him to the world of orthopedics from his love of anatomy. Dr. Rezansoff completed a Bachelor's of Science (Honors) degree in Biochemistry at the University of Calgary. He completed both his M.D. and residency at the University of Alberta. Dr. Rezansoff then moved to Ontario to pursue a fellowship in Sport Medicine in London, Ontario at the

Fowler Kennedy Sport Medicine Clinic. Dr. Rezansoff also completed a second fellowship in Arthroplasty at the University of Toronto at the Toronto East General Hospital. Outside of Medicine, Dr. Rezansoff continues to take part in activities such as guitar and cycling, some of his many childhood hobbies. He is also involved in triathlons and other sports like golf and snowboarding. Dr. Rezansoff loves to spend most of his spare time with his family; his wife, Erin, a recovery room nurse and instructor at MRU - and their beautiful nine month old daughter, Eva; and the rest of it training for triathlons. For the future, Dr. Rezansoff hopes to be more involved in research and better develop his skills and knowledge to make a positive difference in his patients' quality of life. He is determined to be known as a compassionate and innovative surgeon and is excited to make valuable contributions to the field of orthopedic surgery.

### Dr. Paul McBeth - Section of General Surgery/Trauma/ICU (FMC/SHC)



Dr. Paul McBeth joined the Departments of Surgery and Critical Care Medicine in July 2015 in the section of General Surgery and Trauma. Born at Foothills Medical Hospital, he was raised and brought up in Calgary. Dr. McBeth pursued an undergraduate degree from the University of Calgary in Mechanical Engineering, inspired from one of his role models from childhood, his father- who was also an engineer. After graduation, he pursued post graduate studies in Biomedical Engineering at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. It was during this training that he was first exposed to the field of medicine while working with a general surgeon.

After returning to Calgary, he took a position as a Robotics Engineer at the University of Calgary working on Project neuroArm to develop an MRI compatible microsurgical robot. During his tenure as a Robotics Engineer Dr. McBeth became passionate about medicine as he realized he wanted to be the one operating the robot. His passion for learning, exploring, and asking questions about the world around him, fueled his desire for helping people which led him to apply to medical school. He later went on to complete his residency in general surgery in Calgary. After completion of his General Surgery training he returned to the University of British Columbia to complete his fellowship in Critical Care Medicine. He then completed a second fellowship at the Elvis Presley Memorial Trauma Center at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, where he studied trauma surgery. Outside of medicine, Dr. McBeth loves to run, bike, and ski as he tries to keep active with the little amount of spare time he has. His future goals include continuing clinical practice and surgical teaching and to develop a research program to improve the care of trauma patients through improved understanding of coagulopathy using thrombelastography and developing improved resuscitation techniques based on principles of biomedical engineering.



## New Faculty 2015/16

### Dr. Prism Schneider - Section of Orthopedic Surgery (FMC)



Dr. Prism Schneider joined the Department of Surgery in August 2015 in the section of Orthopedic Surgery. Dr. Schneider was born and raised in a small rural town of Saskatchewan. She originally wanted to become a marine biologist, however, she later discovered she was deathly allergic to fish, which worked out well. Growing up, Dr. Schneider's father was her role model as he was a funeral director and she had watched from a young age how he helped families through their worst times with professionalism and compassion. Having grown with those values, it led Dr. Schneider into the field of medicine. Also, having a background knowledge in areas of sporting injuries, training, and exercise physiology, played a part of Dr. Schneider taking an interest in orthopedics. Dr. Schneider completed her undergraduate degree in Kinesiology at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec.

Dr. Schneider then pursued a combined M.D. and PhD degree program at the University of Calgary and completed her residency in Calgary as well. After her residency, she completed two fellowships; her first fellowship was at the University of Texas in Houston, in orthopedic trauma and the second fellowship took place at McGill University, Montreal, in the subject of upper extremity trauma. Outside of medicine, Dr. Schneider loves to participate in downhill skiing, hiking, biking, and travelling with her partner, a vascular surgeon, during their spare time. Dr. Schneider believes everybody is trying to be the best person they can be, and unfortunately in medicine, she meets them at their worst in terms of injuries and illnesses. Dr. Schneider loves being part of helping to care for her patients both domestically and internationally. She has travelled with Broken Earth to places like Cape Town, South Africa, and Haiti to help provide medical care for patients. She also had a chance to teach orthopedic curriculum to the medical students and residents with the University of Fiji. Dr. Schneider is very passionate about trauma related research and wants to help make a difference on an individual basis in orthopedic trauma to provide the best care possible for patients. For the future, Dr. Schneider hopes to be a proficient orthopedic trauma surgeon on a day to day basis and develop a research program focusing on systemic and local inflammatory response to injury and the effects on fracture healing. Dr. Schneider hopes part of her legacy to be changing surgery from the general dogmatic paradigm to a compassion and complete patient care paradigm that is evidence based through research.

# New Faculty 2015/16

## Dr. Richdeep Gill - Section of General Surgery (PLC)



Dr. Richdeep Gill joined the Department of Surgery in August 2015 in the section on General Surgery. He was born and raised in Calgary, and completed his Undergraduate Science degree at the University of Calgary in Biological Sciences. He then shifted to Edmonton, AB to pursue his M.D. at the University of Alberta. He completed his surgical residency in Edmonton, and his Minimally Invasive & Bariatric Surgery fellowship at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Growing up, Dr. Gill knew he wanted to enter the medical world-besides being a professional basketball player-at a young age. Dr. Gill was inspired by a number of role models at various stages. From his father, Inderpal for his hard work, dedication, and commitment to family, to his mentors and colleagues that helped shape his career along the way. One role model in particular, Dr. Drew Sutherland (Late), was a phenomenal teacher, surgeon, and mentor for Dr. Gill as Dr. Sutherland demonstrated his passion for teaching, education, and general practice through everyday activities. Dr. Gill has always enjoyed the learning and science aspects of the medical field and

is passionate about helping to create a positive impact on the lives of the patients by being genuinely devoted to their health while providing patients with the best medical experience. Some of the opportunities Dr. Gill has received as a result of his dedication includes; teaching new medical students and residents, helping patients with their treatments, and being able to travel and give research and educational presentations on various subjects both domestically and internationally. When given the chance, Dr. Gill likes to spend his spare time with his family; his family consists of his wife and three beautiful children aged; seven, five, and three. Activities with them include everything from playing sports to hanging out to watching movies. Dr. Gill loves to play basketball and was a member of the University of Calgary Dinos during his undergraduate years. For the future, Dr. Gill hopes to increase knowledge in Upper Gastrointestinal and Bariatric surgery through academics and research. He has currently published over 50 peer-review publications, and remains committed to improving bariatric surgical care locally and in Canada.

## Dr. Michael Monument - Section of Orthopedic Surgery (FMC)



Dr. Michael Monument joined the Department of Surgery in September 2015 in the section of Orthopedic Surgery. He currently serves as an assistant professor. Dr. Monument is a graduate of the University of Calgary where he completed both his MD, Masters of Science and Orthopedic Training. He received additional fellowship training in Orthopedic Oncology and Limb Reconstruction and then completed 4 years of dedicated post-MD basic science research training at the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah.

## New Faculty 2015/16

### Dr. Christopher Armstrong - Section of General Surgery (RGH)



Dr. Christopher Armstrong joined the Department of Surgery in July 2015, in the section of General Surgery after participating as a locum since August 2013. He was born and raised in Calgary, Alberta. Originally, Dr. Armstrong dreamed of becoming a marine biologist and oceanographer like the legendary Jacques Cousteau. After realizing that there was no ocean within walking distance, he decided to instead study biochemistry at the University of Calgary before completing his medical degree at the University of Alberta. He returned to Calgary to complete his residency in General Surgery. During residency, Dr. Armstrong became interested in the advantages and impact minimally invasive techniques can have on patient recovery, because of this, he pursued a fellowship in the area of advanced minimally invasive surgery with a focus on gastrointestinal and bariatric surgery at the University of California, Irvine. Dr. Armstrong's biggest role model during his education and career has been his

father, Paul Armstrong who was also a General Surgeon in Calgary. He was fortunate to have learned firsthand the importance and challenge of balancing family and personal obligations with a successful surgical career. Dr. Armstrong enjoys having a career in which he can help positively impact a patient's health and enable recovery—one of the many things that drew him towards this field. Some of the opportunities Dr. Armstrong has received as a result of his dedication includes; the opportunity to do a fellowship in a different place, while living in another city, as well as getting involved in the education and training of young surgeons in their education as a new faculty member. His proudest moment in his career thus far, was being awarded the Clinical Preceptor of Year Award for Clinical Education at the Rockyview General Hospital during his first year of practice. Clinically, Dr. Armstrong would like to pursue further advances in minimally invasive general surgery. Academically, he is interested in better integrating simulation based education and competency based learning within the General Surgery Residency training program at the University of Calgary. In addition, he is also currently completing a Masters of Science Degree in Surgical Science and Practice at the University of Oxford. His dissertation work is focused on variations in surgical resource utilization for minimally invasive surgical procedures. Outside of the medical world, Dr. Armstrong enjoys sports such as curling during the winter and is currently learning how to golf. He also enjoys getting chances to take part in activities in the outdoors and mountains. During his spare time, Dr. Armstrong likes to give his time to his family; a loving wife, a two year old son-and another baby on the way. For his legacy, Dr. Armstrong would like to have had a meaningful impact on young surgeons during their surgical training and looks forward to continuing his involvement with the general surgery residency program.



## New Faculty 2015/16

### **Dr. Kimberly Sass - Section of Pediatric Plastic Surgery (ACH)**

Dr. Kimberly Sass joined the Department of Surgery on February 29, 2016, in the section of Pediatric Plastic Surgery. Dr. Sass, Kim, grew up in Saskatchewan near the small town of Meath Park, two hours northeast of Saskatoon. Growing up, she was extremely involved with the local Ukrainian community and danced semi-professionally with the Yevshan Ukrainian Folk Ballet Ensemble in Saskatoon, having the opportunity to tour Ukraine and perform on several international tours. While attending the University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Sass (Kim) studied Human Physiology (BSc, Hon, '02) which sparked an interest to pursue further studies in the field of Medicine (MD, '06). Not only did Medicine open doors to a whole new world of fascinating learning, but it was the daily challenges and opportunities to make significant differences in patients' lives that validated it as a career. With new medical advances and technology being developed every day, modern Medicine is firmly entrenched in an environment of continuous and life-long learning which makes clinical teaching and medical education a priority for Dr. Sass (Kim) to be involved with over the next several years. After completing three years of residency in Diagnostic Radiology, in Saskatoon, Dr. Sass (Kim) transferred into the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery residency program at the University of Calgary. Following the completion of residency in June 2014, Dr. Sass (Kim) traveled to Adelaide, South Australia where she completed a twelve month fellowship in Craniofacial surgery followed by a six month fellowship in Hand and Microsurgery at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Now back in Calgary, Dr. Sass (Kim) hopes to utilize some of this unique subspecialty training to provide better patient care for both Pediatric and Adult patients. She also hopes to further contribute to International surgical care initiatives and build upon her residency experience with Project Outreach. Dr. Sass (Kim) and her husband Graham enjoy traveling as well as many outdoor activities such as hiking, snowboarding, scuba diving, and tennis. After spending a year in Adelaide, only minutes from some of the world's most decorated wineries, Dr. Sass' (Kim's) newest interests include the complex world of viticulture and enology.

\*\*\*NOTE: Profile written by Dr. Kimberly Sass

**Dr. Michael Kwan** joined the Department of Surgery in December 2015 in the section of General Surgery. Dr. Kwan's primary site is South Health Campus and he serves as a clinical lecturer.

**Dr. Justin Yeung** joined the Department of Surgery in July 2015 in the section of Plastic Surgery. Dr. Yeung's primary site is Peter Lougheed Centre. He currently serves as a clinical lecturer.

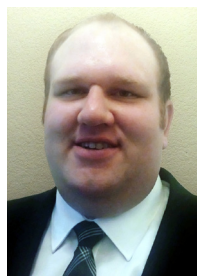
**Dr. Renelle Daigle** joined the Department of Surgery in November 2015 in the section of General Surgery. Dr. Daigle's primary site is South Health Campus and she serves as a clinical lecturer.

**Dr. Charles Metcalfe** joined the Department of Surgery in August 2015 in the section of Urology. He currently serves as a clinical lecturer at the Rockyview General Hospital.

# New Residents 2015-2016



Dr. Ali Fatehi Hassanabad  
University of Toronto  
Cardiac Surgery  
R1



Dr. Brent Peterson  
Midwestern University  
Dentistry and Oral Health  
R1



Dr. Eugene Kryshalskyj  
Western University  
Dentistry and Oral Health  
R1



Dr. Alysha Keehn  
University of Calgary  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Aziza Al Rawali  
Oman Medical Specialty  
Board  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Carolyn Graham  
University of Calgary  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Evan Nelson  
University of Calgary  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Fatma Al Hinai  
Oman Medical Specialty  
Board  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Tamara Gimon  
University of Toronto  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Thomas Clements  
University of Calgary  
General Surgery  
R1



Dr. Ammar Khan  
University of Calgary  
Ophthalmology  
R1



Dr. Alexander Ragan  
University of Calgary  
Ophthalmology  
R1



Dr. Daniel You  
Queen's University  
Orthopedic Surgery  
R1



Dr. Lee Fruson  
University of Calgary  
Orthopaedic Surgery  
R1



Dr. Madison Litowski  
University of Calgary  
Orthopaedic Surgery  
R1



Dr. Sarup Sridharan  
University of Alberta  
Orthopaedic Surgery  
R1

# Continued...



Dr. Ashley Hinder  
University of Calgary  
Otolaryngology  
R1



Dr. Gabrielle French  
University of Calgary  
Otolaryngology  
R1



Dr. Anna Schmidt  
University of Calgary  
Plastic Surgery  
R1



Dr. Tom Cawthorn  
Queen's University  
Plastic Surgery  
R1



Dr. Ruben Dehaeck  
University of Sydney  
Vascular Surgery  
R3

# Extended Residents & Fellowships 2015-2016



Dr. Ryan Rochon  
University of British Columbia  
Colorectal Surgery  
R6



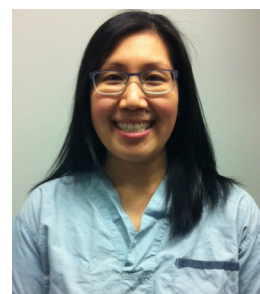
Dr. Jennifer Lam  
Western University  
Pediatric General Surgery  
R6



Dr. Carlos Alvarez-Allende  
University of Puerto Rico  
Pediatric General Surgery  
R8



Dr. Suzana Kupper  
University of Alberta  
Surgical Oncology  
R6



Dr. Victoria Cheung  
University of British Columbia  
Thoracic Surgery



Dr. Allison Teles  
University of Caxias do Sul-Brazil  
Combined Spine



Dr. Archana Raman  
Nassau University Medical Center-USA  
Endocrine



Dr. Hoover Cooper  
San Felipe General Hospital-Honduras  
HPB



Dr. Amar Gupta  
Maimonides Medical Center-USA  
HPB



Dr. Shalvin Prasad  
University of Otago New Zealand  
Upper GI



# Continued...



Dr. Rufus Rajakumar  
University of Saskatchewan  
Trauma



Dr. Matthew Anderson  
Mersey Deanery  
United Kingdom  
Retina Ophthalmology



Dr. Itay Magal  
Shaare Ledeck Medical Center  
Israel  
Retina Ophthalmology



Dr. Avi Rubinov  
Ramba Health Care Center  
Israel  
Oculoplastics &  
Reconstruction



Dr. Irfan Abdulla  
University of Western Ontario  
Joint Reconstruction



Dr. David Cadotte  
University of Toronto  
Combined Spine



Dr. Damian Clark  
Severn Deanery School of  
Surgery  
Trauma



Dr. Vineet Dabas  
University of Delhi  
Hand and Wrist



Dr. Shandy Fox  
University of Saskatchewan  
Combined Spine



Dr. Frank Lyons  
Royal College of Surgeons  
UK & Ireland  
Combined Spine



Dr. Simon Manners  
Auckland Medical School  
Combined Spine



Dr. Travis Marion  
University of Ottawa  
Trauma



Dr. Keith Neufeld  
Dalhousie University  
Joint Reconstruction



Dr. Raghav Saini  
Institute of Med. Ed. & Res.  
Chandigarh, India  
Musculoskeletal Oncology &  
Limb Reconstruction



Dr. Ashish Taneja  
Institute of Med. Ed. & Res.  
Chandigarh, India  
Joint Reconstruction



Continued...



Dr. Allison Tucker  
Queen's University  
Banff Sport Medicine



Dr. Danielle Wadley  
Northside Australian  
Orthopedic Association  
Foot and Ankle



Dr. Rasha Baqueel  
University of Western Ontario  
Microsurgery



Dr. Michel Bureau  
Laval University  
Reconstructive and Functional  
Urology



Dr. Adiel Mahmut  
University of Western Ontario  
Reconstructive and Functional  
Urology

# Graduating Residents

## **Cardiac Surgery**

**Dr. Walid Alayadhi** has accepted the position of a Staff Surgeon and will practice in Saudi Arabia.

**Dr. Uthman Aluthman** will be pursuing a fellowship at Western University for one year, titled:  
“Minimal invasive& Transcatheter valve and Robotic Cardiac Surgery.”

## **General Surgery**

**Dr. Janice Austin** is currently at the University of Toronto pursuing a two year fellowship in surgical oncology.

**Dr. Kenton Rommens** is completing a Vascular Surgery fellowship at the University of Calgary for the next 2 years.

**Dr. Ben Turner** has successfully graduated from the section of General Surgery.

**Dr. Christopher Blackmore** has successfully graduated from the section of General Surgery.

**Dr. Jennifer Lam** has successfully graduated from the section of General Surgery.

**Dr. Ting Li** has successfully graduated from the section of General Surgery.

**Dr. Ryan Rochon** will be starting a Colorectal Fellowship at the University of Calgary and also a Master's in Science degree in the area of Quality Improvement and Patient Safety at the University of Toronto. Dr. Rochon will be primarily based in Calgary with occasional visits to Toronto. Dr. Rochon will complete the Master's degree in June 2017 and the colorectal fellowship in June 2018.

## **Colorectal Surgery**

**Dr. Cailan MacPherson** has successfully graduated from the Colorectal Surgery program.



# Congratulations



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. Elijah Dixon deliver the 10th lecture this year.

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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