

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

Ob/Gyn News

Summer 2011



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As many of us head off for the Annual Meeting of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, it brings home to me what a wonderful department we have with so many talented and accomplished individuals. This newsletter highlights many of the awards and accomplishments of our faculty and trainees over the last six months. We also celebrate the outstanding Research Day held Friday, May 6, 2011. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this day due to a family situation but I know that Dr. Philip Castle delivered a very interesting and informative lecture on the topic of human papillomavirus and cervical cancer. I would like to extend my congratulations to all the trainees who presented and to the recipients of the J.W. Knox Ritchie Research Awards. In addition, congratulations to Dr. Eliane Shore in being recognized by her peers to receive the Frederick Papsin Award.

This year also marked the successful promotion of Dr. Paul Bernstein to Full Professor and Dr. Mark Yudin to Associate Professor. Paul and Mark also received major Faculty of Medicine postgraduate awards at the Annual Education Achievement Celebration. Paul received the Excellence in Post Medical Education Award for Teaching Performance / Mentorship / Advocacy and Mark received the Sarita Verma Award for Advocacy and Mentorship in Postgraduate Medicine. My hearty congratulations to both Paul and Mark, and thanks for their sustained commitment to excellence in postgraduate education. We were delighted to learn that all our PGY 5 residents successfully completed their Royal College exams and congratulate them on reaching this important milestone. We hope that they will remember the University of Toronto Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology as they embark on the next stage of their careers.

Dr. Jon Barrett and the team at Sunnybrook have completed recruitment to the Twin Birth Study. As many of you know, this is a very large, multi-centre trial and had an ambitious goal of recruiting 2800 patients. This has now been completed with recruitment having taken place at 106 centres in 25 countries. Many congratulations to Jon and his team on this outstanding achievement and we look forward to hearing the results of this important study.

As we prepare for the opening of the Mississauga Academy of Medicine in September, our faculty has been enhanced through the appointment of a number of staff at Credit Valley Hospital and Trillium Health Centre. In addition we have appointed a number of community-affiliate obstetrician-gynaecologists actively involved in teaching, particularly family medicine residents. These include staff at The Scarborough Hospital, Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie, Southlake Regional Health Centre in York Region and Markham-Stouffville Hospital. Our department is committed to the mission of integrated medical education and we look forward to the active involvement of these additional faculty in our teaching and research mission.

We continue to move forward in our department's strategic plan and in this newsletter you will see an abbreviated summary of the results of the Social Responsibility Survey which was carried out by Dr. Nan Okun, who chairs our department's task force on social responsibility. There are many, many members of our department who are actively involved in social responsibility activities locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. I would like to thank all of these members for their commitment to this important aspect of our department's activities and we look forward to gaining a better understanding of all the activity through Nan's task force.

In closing I want to thank all of our faculty and staff for your unwavering commitment to our combined mission of clinical care, research and teaching and I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer.

Dr. Alan Bocking

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2011 RESEARCH DAY AWARDS



Photos from left to right; Dr. Adrian Brown, Oral Chair; Drs. Stephen Lye, Rebecca Cash and Paul Bernstein; Dr. Crystal Chan, winner in the Graduate Student category

The Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology 28th Annual Research Day took place Friday, May 6, 2011. There were 14 oral and 61 poster presentations by trainees from the department, covering a range of excellent basic and clinical research. There was also an excellent Henderson Lecture, delivered by **Dr. Philip Castle**: "Separating the Wheat from the Chaff: The Paradigm of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Cervical Cancer".

We would like to thank everyone who participated and extend special thanks to all those faculty members who acted as chairs and judges and to the Research Committee, particularly Stephen Lye as Chair.

The **2011 JW Knox Ritchie Research Awards** for best abstract/presentation by trainee category were awarded during the celebratory wine and cheese reception at the end of the day. We are pleased to announce the following winners:

Clinical Fellow: A tie!

Tania Dumont (Supervisor: Lisa Allen) for Poster Presentation, J5, Utilization of Molecular Testing to Determine the Optimal Sampling Strategy for the Detection of Urogenital C. Trachomatis and N. Gonorrhoeae in Adolescent Females. Tania Dumont, Kaede Ota, Susan Richardson, Erin Barlow, Trisha Tulloch, Catherine Maser, Debra Katzman, Yvonne Yau, Lisa Allen.

AND

Kimberley Garbedian (Supervisor: Barbara Cruickshank) for Poster Presentation J2, Conservative Management of Cervical Ectopic Pregnancy. Kimberley Garbedian, Ally Murji, Barbara Cruickshank.

Post-Doctoral Fellow: Fergus McCarthy (Supervisor: John Kingdom) for Oral Presentation O4, The Role of Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptor Gamma in Normal Rodent Pregnancy and an Animal Model of Preeclampsia. Fergus P McCarthy, Sascha Drewlo, Dora Baczyk, John Kingdom, Edward J Johns, Sarah K Walsh, Louise C Kenny.

Resident: Daniela Caprara (Supervisor: Mark Yudin) for Poster Presentation F2, A Descriptive Analysis of a Large Cohort of HIV-Positive Pregnant Women at One Canadian Urban Hospital. Daniela Caprara, Rajiv Shah, Jay MacGillivray, Mark H. Yudin.

Graduate Student: Crystal Chan (Supervisors: Ellen Greenblatt and Theodore J Brown) for Oral Presentation O9, Transcriptomic and Proteomic Analysis of Uterine Fluid Aspirates: A Minimally Invasive Approach to Determining Markers of Human Endometrial Receptivity. Crystal Chan, Carl Virtanen, Neil Winegarten, Terence Colgan, Theodore Brown, Ellen Greenblatt.

Medical Student: Ingrid Lai (Supervisor: Ellen Greenblatt) for Poster Presentation J6, Cultural Barriers to Fertility Treatment in the Toronto Chinese Community. Ingrid Lai, Samantha Yee, Ellen Greenblatt.

In addition, the **Papsin Award** for postgraduate resident in final year of training, based on teaching ability, mentorship activities and leadership, as chosen by peers, was awarded to **Eliane Shore**.



Dr. Fergus McCarthy winner in the Post-Doctoral Fellow category

UPDATE FROM THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TASK FORCE

As you may already know, one of the strategic directions of our department is to develop "Social Responsibility" as a formal academic benchmark. Potentially vague in its interpretation, social responsibility has been defined as "being responsible in all our local, provincial, national, and global academic endeavours by valuing social justice, equity, diversity and professionalism."








All departments within the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine are approaching this in their own way. In our department a task force was struck, and we proceeded with a survey (sample question below) to determine what our members were involved in to date. Of 168 members surveyed, we received 60 responses (thanks to those who responded!). It is no surprise that our department is very active in endeavors that address social responsibility. From local initiatives such as educating providers to safely perform abortion services, to international initiatives such as involvement in provision of health care services in Zimbabwe, Kenya and China our department is very involved in social responsibility related work in research, program planning and day to day clinical work that provides care to those that are vulnerable.

Our task force is convinced that we've underestimated departmental initiatives as represented in the survey, and that we meet or exceed the requirements that a benchmark would require. Therefore we have decided to profile members not represented in the survey over the next months in a "social responsibility newsletter". We will report on 2 or 3 members in each bi-monthly report.

If anyone would like to be featured themselves, or suggest someone who should be featured, please feel free to email me at nokun@mtsinai.on.ca, and stay tuned!

Dr. Nan Okun

SAMPLE QUESTION FROM: Social Responsibility/Accountability Shortened Survey

9. What terms below best describe the TYPE OF PROJECT you are involved in (please check all that apply)?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Education		68.0%	17
Research		64.0%	16
Health Care - Primary		32.0%	8
Health Care - Secondary/Tertiary		40.0%	10
Capacity Building		28.0%	7
Health Human Resources		28.0%	7
Policy development		36.0%	9
Other TYPE of project (please provide details)			3
answered question			25
skipped question			35

GLOBAL HEALTH

Please welcome two Moi students, Ricken Simiyu Namungu and Emmanuel Roba Soma, who will be coming to Uoft in August 2011. They were introduced to some of the past Moi students who conducted electives at Uoft (David and Korir of 2010) and some Uoft reps currently in Eldoret (as shown in picture on the right).



(From left to right): Ricken, Naana, Carly, Astrid, Nyangaresi, Aaron, Korir, David (3 March 2011)



LETTER FROM ELDORET

by Astrid Christoffersen-Deb

'The cervix is like a mango', explains Jackie and Grace to a hallway full of women carrying babies and baskets. 'From the outside, the mango looks fine. But peel the mango, and you might find a small piece that is blemished.' The ladies nod in agreement. 'But this does not mean you cannot enjoy the mango, isn't it. You remove the piece from the mango, and enjoy the rest. That is what we do here at the Cervical Cancer Screening Program (CCSP). We look for blemishes on your cervix, so you can enjoy the rest of your lives.'

Over the last several years, our department has been engaged in developing local capacity in Eldoret, Kenya to screen and treat women with cervical dysplasia and cancer. In the absence of primary care health systems here, women do not have access to the lifesaving interventions of regular pap smears nor HPV testing. All too commonly, they come to the clinic, emaciated, carried in hand and spirit by their husbands and children, only to learn that a cancer that could have been prevented is now too far

advanced to treat. These moments resonate all too strongly with the situation here 10 years ago when patients suffering from the complications of AIDS had few therapeutic options outside of prayer and palliative care.

The situation here is already starting to change. As part of our department's contribution to AMPATH's primary health care program in Western Kenya, we are in the process of scaling up cervical dysplasia screening to rural health facilities. Beginning with a one-week intensive training here in Eldoret, our nurses Jackie and Grace have spent a month at a time, providing daily mentorship to the nurses in the outlying facilities of Turbo and Mosoriot. Our coordinator John has ensured that the nurses also learn to become managers of the clinic, remaining as meticulous in their screening as they are in their bookkeeping of results and supplies. This deeply personal mentorship, a hallmark of the AMPATH model of care and education, has yielded impressive results. Since January, the CCSP clinic in Eldoret has screened 862 women. In its first six weeks of operation, the nurses in Mosoriot have screened 505 women using visual inspection of the cervix with acetic acid. Within the next 2 months, we anticipate that they will be able to see and treat women with dysplasia using cryotherapy.

For those women who screen positive, there are resources in place to care for them. The local team of Dr. Omenge, Dr. Itsura and Ms. Hellen Muliro ensure that women with suspicious lesions for cancer are seen in the Gynae-Oncology clinic. Through the surgical mentorship of Dr. Barry Rosen, Drs. Omenge and Itsura

are now treating women with radical hysterectomies. Through wider partnerships within AMPATH's Oncology program, they provide chemotherapy and referrals for radiation therapy. Contributions from several members of our department in Toronto have ensured that no patient with cancer is ever turned away. Meeting patients' shortfalls in their hospital bill (which average 100\$) is an invaluable way in which we ensure that every woman accesses her right to care.

None of this would be possible without the immense support and expertise from several members of our department. Since December, we've enjoyed the presence of Nan Okun, Barry Rosen, the red-booted Heather Morris, Naana Jumah, medical students Julie Thorne and Carly Morin, as well as visitors from other departments: Aaron Yarmoshuk (DLSPH), Donald Cole (DLSPH), Jim Ingles (Molecular Genetics), Eleanor Fish (Immunology) and Mostafa Atri (Radiology).

Happy summer (or wintry rainy season here!),




(From left to right): the team in the O. ...
 Rosen and Omenge

AWARDS, HONOURS, & ACHIEVEMENTS

We are very pleased to announce that the following members of our department received prestigious awards at this year's Faculty of Medicine Education Achievement Celebration:

- **Dr. Paul Bernstein** received the Excellence in Postgraduate Medical Education Award for Teaching Performance/Mentorship/Advocacy
- **Dr. Mark Yudin** received the Sarita Verma Award for Advocacy and Mentorship in Postgraduate Medicine.

Congratulations Paul and Mark for these outstanding recognitions. We would also like to thank the residents in our department for their important contribution to this recognition process.

Dr. Terence Colgan, primary appointment at Lab Medicine and Pathobiology, has been appointed the incoming Chair of the College of American Pathologists' Curriculum Committee. The College is a multi-disciplinary organization embracing all pathology and lab specialties, and is committed to transforming the practice of pathology and lab medicine. The Curriculum Committee is charged with the development and assessment of all on-line and in-person learning activities of the College, and is focused on bringing forward new developments in practice, quality management and technologies.

Professor Emeritus Maire Percy, Physiology, and Obstetrics & Gynaecology, is the 2011 winner of the Award of Excellence of the Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities, that honours "an individual who has contributed significantly to better understanding of, or enhance the quality of life for those with developmental disabilities". She is widely known and respected as a researcher, teacher, mentor and textbook and journal editor.

Dr. John Kingdom and **Dr. Mara Sobel** have had a paper accepted in the June edition of *Obstetrics & Gynaecology*. This paper also won the ACOG District V Best Junior Fellow Paper award.

Bibliographic details: Sobel, M., Kingdom, J., Drewlo, S. Angiogenic response of placental villi to heparin. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. 2011 Jun; 117 (6): 1375-83.

http://journals.lww.com/greenjournal/Abstract/2011/06000/Angiogenic_Response_of_Placental_Villi_to_Heparin.16.aspx

Dr. Nicholas Pairaudeau has been awarded an OMA Life Membership Award, May 2011, for outstanding contributions to the work of the Association, medical sciences and common good in Ontario.

Tikun Olam Award 2011

Dr. Paul and **Pedrinah Thistle** have received the Tikun Olam Award 2010 for Outstanding Achievement in Medicine. Since 1995, Dr. Paul and Pedrinah Thistle have been providing medical, social and spiritual care to over 100,000 people in Zimbabwe each year. Through their exemplary work, Dr. Thistle, chief medical officer at the Salvation Army Howard Hospital, and Pedrinah, a nurse educator and midwife, ensure an entire rural community of 270,000 have access to much needed medical, health and humanitarian assistance.

They have brought health and hope to so many who do not have easy access to medical care, both as patients and through community outreach programs. According to Dr. Thistle, "There is satisfaction in the daily tasks of the mission at Howard: a mother saved in childbirth, a malnourished infant restored to health, an adult living with HIV counseled on healthy living. There is always hope, even in the most difficult circumstances. Joy does find a way".

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

PROMOTIONS

Professor

- Dr. Paul Bernstein

Associate Professor

- Dr. Mark Yudin
- Dr. Evelyn Lambe (in the Department of Physiology)

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor

- Dr. Sergey Moskovtsev
- Dr. Kristy A. Prouse

Lecturer

- Dr. George Arnold
- Dr. Rebecca Arthur
- Dr. Dalip Kumar Bhangu
- Dr. Veena Bonde
- Dr. Yoav Brill
- Dr. Melanie Caetano
- Dr. Shannon Causey
- Dr. Mary Cheng
- Dr. Alexandre Corbey
- Dr. Stacy Costa
- Dr. Catherine Ann Cowal
- Dr. Joseph Cramer
- Dr. Alfonso Del Valle

- Dr. Anthony Di Pierdomenico
- Dr. Marianne R. Duemler
- Dr. Maja Gans
- Dr. Gwendolyn Goodrow
- Dr. Beata Grygowski
- Dr. Paul Gurland
- Dr. Ronnie Hakim
- Dr. Sybil Judah
- Dr. Allan Kanee
- Dr. Sylvie Leone-Tomaschoff
- Dr. Roberta Mackenzie
- Dr. Tara Macleod
- Dr. Haidar Mahmoud
- Dr. Mary Melchior
- Dr. Esther Park
- Dr. Perry Phillips
- Dr. Kimberly Rogers
- Dr. Peter W. Scheufler
- Dr. Gita Singh
- Dr. John Smith
- Dr. Richard Stein
- Dr. Scott Tigert
- Dr. Carol Wade
- Dr. Vincent Wu

CROSS-APPOINTED FACULTY

Professor

- Dr. Lyle Palmer (Dalla Lana School of Public Health)

RESIDENT CORNER

2011 Graduates

Congratulations to our residents who recently successfully completed the RCPSC Fellowship exams in June.

Graduating June 30, 2011

- Dr. Dora Chan
- Dr. Shannon Corbett
- Dr. Matthew Laskin
- Dr. Ally Murji
- Dr. Andrea Page
- Dr. Eli Shore
- Dr. Sarah Sinasac
- Dr. Marilyn Sutandar

We would also like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to our faculty members who helped to prepare our residents for this very important milestone in their academic careers and throughout their training.

2011 Residents

Welcome to Residency Program July 1, 2011

- Jessica Green
- David Gurau
- Ummi Habiba
- Adrienne Li
- Rebecca Menzies
- Rebecca Rich
- Michael Sector
- Alison Shea
- Andrea Simpson
- John Snelgrove
- Liane Tan
- Julie Thorne

Honours and Awards

Dr. Crystal Chan won first place in the Clinical Alan Wu Poster Competition at the Institute of Medical Sciences Scientific Day. Dr. Chan was also spotlighted in the spring edition of IMS magazine. The article highlights Dr. Chan's research in the Clinician Investigator Program (CIP). Co-supervised by **Dr. Ted Brown** and **Dr. Ellen Greenblatt**, Dr. Chan's research goal is to reduce the rate of multiple pregnancies associated with in vitro fertilization.

Dr. Naana Afua Jumah was awarded the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health Duchesnay International Elective Fellowship for Obstetrics and Gynaecology Residents for her elective in Kenya. This SOGC grant and funds will help cover the costs in Eldoret.

Dr. Jumah was invited as a guest to the Healthy Women, Healthy Future Gala and Research Awards Ceremony (June 23, 2011) during the SOGC's Annual Clinical Meeting in Vancouver, B.C. to accept the award in person.

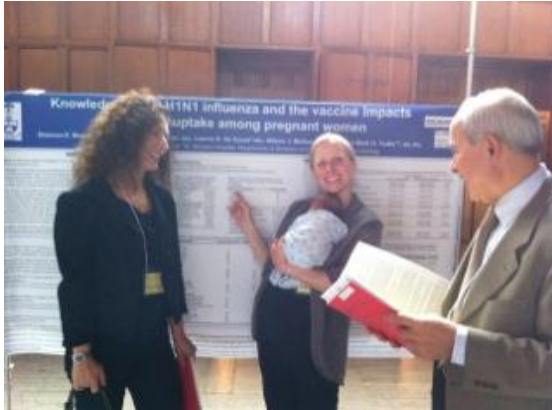
As part of the award requirements Dr. Jumah will make an oral presentation of her experience in Kenya during the 2012 International Women's Health Symposium of SOGC's next ACM, which will take place in Ottawa on June 20th 2012.

Dr. Kelsey Mills has been selected as one of the recipients of the 2011 New Investigator Awards given by the North American Menopause Society (NAMS). Her abstract entitled, "Menopausal symptoms by age and therapy type in women with premature ovarian failure" has also been accepted for poster presentation at the NAMS 22nd Annual Meeting to be held Sept. 21-24, 2011, in Washington, DC and will be published in "Menopause". Excellent work, Kelsey and her mentor **Dr. Wendy Wolfman**.

Dr. Ally Murji has been selected as the recipient of the NYGH E.W. Wight Memorial Award for 2010-2011. One resident is selected annually from across the hospital from all services who has displayed qualities of compassion for patients with a devotion to the highest level of patient care. The award was presented at the June 16th Education Achievement Celebration.

Resident Corner News

It's a boy! Proud mom **Dr. Shannon Moore** and dad Michal Cegielski are pleased to announce the birth of their son Christopher Adam Cegielski, born May 1st, 2011 at 3:05am and weighing 8lbs 11oz. Shannon Moore presented her poster 5 days postpartum. Amazing! What dedication!



Proud mom Dr. Shannon Moore 5 days postpartum presenting her poster at 28th Annual Research Day with newborn son Christopher



*Christopher Adam Cegielski,
Dr. Shannon Moore's baby boy*

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

The pre-convocation ceremony for the MD program occurred on June 1, 2011. Roberta Bondar addressed the class. The OB/Gyn award winners were:

- **Pamela Lih-Pin Tsao** – Dr. Jacob Goldstein Scholarship in Obstetrics and Gynecology
- **Nigel Shih-Yen Tan** – Hendry Memorial Scholarship
- **Jessica Ashleigh Green** – Dr. Frederick R. Papsin Award

Also, the Cody Silver Medal went to Nigel and the Cody Gold Medal went to Pamela!

We would also like to acknowledge both the Whightman Berris Academy and Fitzgerald Academy for making a commitment to providing videoconferencing support free of charge for our seminar program for every rotation in the upcoming academic year 2011-2012. This move will greatly facilitate the implementation of a full clerkship program at the Mississauga Academy by the year 2013.

Heparin trial success spearheaded by two U of T Medical Students

Leslie Proctor (meds13) and Melissa Walker (meds 14) preceded their entries to medical school with fellowships in the Mount Sinai Hospital Placenta Clinic with Dr.

Kingdom. Armed with MSc degrees they seamlessly launched the trial, recruited the patients, managed the data and assisted Dr Kingdom to write the manuscript that has just been accepted by the Journal of Thrombosis and Hemostasis. Their findings were recently presented at the March 2011 Society for Gynecologic Investigation Meeting in Miami, FL. The work was funded by a grant from the Physician's Services Incorporated Foundation of Ontario.



From left: Leslie Proctor and Melissa Walker

INTER-HOSPITAL/DEPARTMENT NEWS & EVENTS

St. Michael's Hospital

- **Dr. Rajiv Shah** published the findings of his master's thesis in JOGC and was elected President of the Medical Staff Association, starting in June this year for a two-year term.
- **Dr. Guylaine Lefebvre** was elected Chair of MAC for a two-year term starting in July this year.
- Both Guylaine and Rajiv will be members of the Board of Directors at SMH.
- **Dr. Andrea Lausman** was married June 25th
- **Dr. Donna Steele** received the Fitzgerald Academy award of best teacher
- **Dr. Sari Kives** is the recipient of a newly created award at SMH given yearly at the Fitzgerald Academy Recognition Awards: **The Paul McCleary Award**. Dr. McCleary, former staff at SMH and past chief at Wellesley, was an exceptional clinician, teacher and mentor. The award is given to a member of the SMH department of ob/gyn in recognition for the promotion of education in ob/gyn.
- **Dr. Fady Mansour** completed a two year fellowship in minimally invasive gynaecologic surgery at SMH. He has been given an appointment at McGill and will be working at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal. We wish him well and look forward to ongoing collaborations.

Mount Sinai Hospital

- **Dr. Rachel Spitzer** and husband Marc Kates welcomed a new addition to her family, a baby girl, Eve Ruth Kates, born May 2/11, weighing 6lbs 15oz. See picture of the little bundle of joy posing with her big brother, Seth (top right). Congrats!

North York General Hospital

- **Dr. Modupe Tunde-Byass** and **Dr. Dennis Chu** both completed the several-week U of T program in Patient Safety and Quality Improvement



Newborn Eve Kates and big brother Seth Kates

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

- **Dr. Rachel Kupets** gave birth to twins at the beginning of the year.

Women's College Hospital

- **Twin Birth Study**

The Twin Birth Study: A Trial Comparing Planned Vaginal Birth to Elective Caesarean Section of Twins reached a milestone on April 1. The study recruited the final patient to achieve their goal of 2800. Patients are enrolled from 106 centres in 25 countries. The next steps are to clean the data and carry out the analysis of the primary data. The analysis is projected to take place at the end of the year and the results will be presented at an international meeting in May 2012 in Toronto.

Principal Investigator: **Dr. Jon Barrett**; Senior Research Coordinator: Dalah Mason; sponsored by SHSC and collaborator CIHR.

Departmental News

- **Dr. Evelyn Lambe** is pleased to announce the birth of her daughter Tasma. Dr. Lambe reports that Tasma is a smiley baby and is growing quickly. (See picture on page 11).
- Congratulations to **Dr. Prati Sharma** on the birth of her baby boy Sunil, born April 30.

Notes from recent South East Asia Visit: Hong Kong, Singapore, Chengdu and Beijing

I left for Asia in April 2011 to further my liaison with the faculties in Singapore, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Chengdu and Beijing with a view to setting up faculty exchanges and possible research opportunities. I am very enthusiastic about the opportunities that our specialty of obstetrics and gynaecology can derive from further outreach to Asia. Of course there have been many people over the last 100 years that have been to Hong Kong, China and Singapore. But I am hoping that we can build on the recent visits from our faculty.

My visit started out in Singapore, where I met Professor Charles Ng, who is well known and respected in Singapore as a world class obstetrician and gynaecologist. He is the co-chairman of the meeting in November 2011 jointly hosted by the SLS and SOGS. The committee has given me a special opportunity to bring Chinese medical faculty as well as Canadian gynaecologists to present topics to do with Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS). These presentations will be in both English and Chinese. I hope all in Toronto will consider this important event in November.

After leaving Singapore, I went to Hong Kong and met with Professor Vincent Cheung, who is presently working in the Queen Mary Hospital in Hong Kong. Professor Cheung was in Toronto for many years, and he is now in a teaching unit in the Department of Gynecology. He continues his clinical practice and increasing his publications.

I was going on to Shenzhen, but the faculty was awaiting further advice from their board as to the direction they want to take with regards to the University of Toronto. A group will be going there in July to further review opportunities in this rapidly expanding city.

I revisited Chengdu and met with the faculty headed by Professor Xiong Xin. The professor has a postgraduate degree from America. With his vision and understanding of what he feels is the modern direction of his department, I believe this centre could work with the University of Toronto. Canadian physicians have been to this area in the past and are well respected.

I cannot visit China without visiting my colleagues in Beijing Hospital. They have been my "guanxi" or network group that have made it possible to meet faculties in the rest of China. I have the opportunity of teaching their residents, and also go the operating room to see new operations, as well as review how their hysteroscopy program is working out. I remind myself that I am very fortunate to have the respect of my "Beijing colleagues" and have the opportunity of expanding my contacts in China.

I am awaiting my next visit in July to focus on developing faculty liaison in China with Professor Shoo Lee and Stephen Lye of the University of Toronto.

Nicholas Pairaudeau



Chengdu



A much deserved night out in Beijing



Beijing

UPCOMING EVENTS

Interhospital Rounds 2011-2012begin Sept. 9, 2011

Faculty Development Half-Day and Awards Reception
The Vaughan Estate, Sunnybrook Campus
.....October 26, 2011

29th Annual Research Day 2012 May 4, 2012



Tasma, Evelyn Lambe's little cherub!

Smiling attendees at the Postgraduate Barbeque - June 16, 2011

