



Obstetrics & Gynaecology UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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ObGyn 2016/2017
Winter Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

I hope you enjoy our Winter 2017 update, prepared by our new communications and media specialist, Michael Browne.

Our Department continues to grow across all our hospital sites. Our most recent recruit profiled here, Nucelio Lemos, will work at the newly-merged Gynaecology Division between Sinai Health System and Women's College hospital. He and Colleen McDermott expand the Urogynaecology Division, under new leadership provided by Dr. Patricia Lee, based at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

In November, we had a very successful Strategic Planning retreat, with a focus on quality improvement in Gynaecologic Surgery, thanks to Lisa Allen for arranging this. It was very inspiring to see several presentations across all hospitals, demonstrating a keen collective interest in safe surgery. In tandem with successes in the GTA-OB network profiled here, the new GTA Gynaecology Network, supported by a Dean's Award to Dr. Ally Murji, is making significant progress.

Our faculty development day was yet another success, thanks to the hard work of Filomena Meffe and her committee. Award winners are profiled in this report. We created two new awards: the Doug Cannell Award, for sustained excellence in Postgraduate Education for Faculty with 20+ years of service (congratulations to Paul Bernstein) and the McArthur Scholar Award for the highest ranked Merit Award application (congratulations to Sarah Ferguson).

This year, Research Day will take place on Friday, April 28th at St Lawrence Centre for the Arts. I am pleased to state that a record 112 abstracts have been submitted online, attesting to the vibrant culture of research by our faculty and trainees. The newsletter shows you examples

of recent grant successes, hard-won in today's tough grant climate. Please make every effort to come and enjoy this day celebrating our trainees' successes.

Our academic year will end with our formal Graduation and Alumni event, to be held again at Hart House on Thursday June 15th, 2017. More details will follow, but please do mark your calendars, to support our graduates and enjoy our Departmental hospitality.

The newsletter showcases some happy photographs of marriages and births and we wish them all well. We have included an important piece written by our Chair of Medicine, about the advancement of Women in Academic Medicine. As I hope we all would agree, Obstetrics & Gynaecology is a specialty in which women flourish, and play significant leadership roles. We can be rightly proud of our diversity and advancement of women in our profession.

In commemoration of the great strides made by women in our profession and of International Women's Day, in this newsletter, we feature the fascinating story of Jennie Smillie Robertson, the first female physician to do major gynecological surgery in Canada, an excerpt from our forthcoming book on the History of our Department. Thanks to Kristen Gane and Christopher Geary for their work on the piece. Look for further excerpts from our history in future newsletters as we prepare to launch our book.

Our 123E team wishes you well as we approach a well deserved spring break.

John Kingdom
Gordon C. Leitch Chair



International Women's Day 2017

Jennie Smillie Robertson (1878 - 1981)

Keeping the mischievous and obstreperous boys in order

When the Faculty of Medicine began enrolling women in 1906, Jennie Smillie Robertson was quick to line up. Born in 1878 on a farm in Huron County, Ontario, she had plenty of opportunities to cultivate determination and perseverance, surrounded by both older and younger siblings on a busy rural farm. Eyeing the annual salary of 300 dollars, 18-year-old Jennie trained as a teacher first, but after a few short years, was able to save enough money for medical school. In 1905 she was accepted at the Ontario Medical College for Women.

The Ontario Medical College for Women was the sole option for Jennie. But in the 1904-05 session, students joined University of Toronto male medical students for the first time. This was formalized in April 1906, when the University officially opened its doors to women medical students, and the Ontario Medical College for Women closed (while still maintaining a clinic for women), officially transferring all students, including Jennie, to the Faculty of Medicine.



Medical co-education was new for everyone, and some of the young women keenly felt the hostility that their presence evoked.

Jennie was made of sterner stuff. She viewed the presence of the women students as a positive influence on the unruly young men! As she recalled years later, "The professors had been having difficulty keeping the mischievous and obstreperous boys in order, and noted that the gentlemen behaved better when ladies were present in the classes..."

After graduating in 1909, Jennie could not find one internship in Toronto. Undeterred, she went to Women's Medical College hospital in Philadelphia and came back equipped with training, experience and confidence. Not one hospital would grant her surgical privileges. Not about to give up, Jennie's unrelenting determination fueled her first operation in Canada, an oophorectomy, which she performed on the patient's kitchen table while taking full advantage of the midday light. Jennie was the first female physician to do major gynecological surgery in Canada!

This brazen act emphasized the need for a hospital where women surgeons could work. Jennie and her colleagues re-established the original Ontario Medical College for Women as Women's College Hospital on Seaton Street, where she would become chair of Gynecology from 1912 to 1942. Living to 103, her remarkable tenacity helped to pave the way for many medical women, including Geraldine Maloney, the first full-time female faculty member of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 1947. And if Jennie Smillie Robertson were here today, she might remind us that her own mother, long ago on a farm in Huron County, played a significant role too, when she reportedly told 5-year-old Jennie that, yes, girls could be doctors too!

Excerpt from the forthcoming History Book on the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Toronto

At-A-Glance

TRAINEES

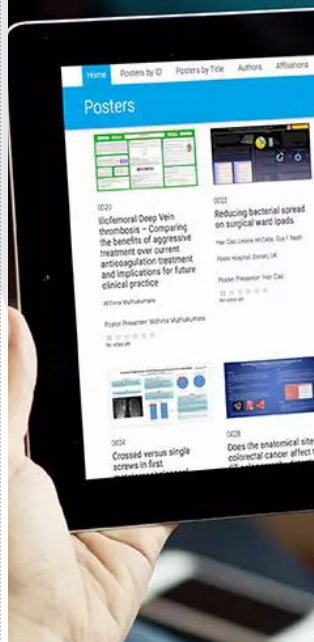


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Updates

Celebrating major events in people's lives including the arrival of several babies into the OBGYN family.

RESEARCH

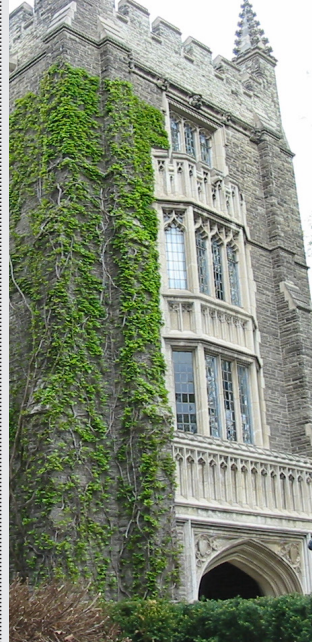


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Research Day

This year posters will be presented electronically with the use of ePostersLive®.

S.O.O.N



13

GTA-OBS Update

McMaster University has now joined with the GTA-OBS network, due to our recent CIHR Team Grant success and consequently the network has changed in line with this to become the Southern Ontario Obstetrical Network (S.O.O.N.)

MORE



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More?

All other news stories can be found here and any other updates that we need to include.

New Appointments & Promotions

Patricia Lee

Dr. Patricia Lee has been appointed to the role of Interim Head, Division of Urogynaecology as of January 1st, 2017 following the retirement of Dr. Harold Drutz. We wish her well in this new position. Following the move of a member of the Division (Dr. Colleen McDermott) to Sinai Health System (SHS) in January 2017, rotations for Residents will now be at SHS and at Sunnybrook.

Dr. Patricia Lee will lead the Division in the creation of a new integrated two-site Fellowship in Urogynaecology, commencing July 2018. The sub-specialty across Canada is in the midst of applying for formal recognition by RCPSC.



Kellie Murphy

Dr. Kellie Murphy, Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Sinai Health System, replaced Dr. Stephen Lye as Vice Chair Research, in 2016. Kellie is cross-appointed at IHPME and brings a wealth of expertise in designing clinical research to trainees and junior faculty in our Department.

Together with Dr. Ted Brown and Mark Yudin, she is focusing on our commitment to support our junior faculty members as they develop research interests. We thank Dr. Stephen Lye for leading us in our research mission over the previous decade.



Nucelio Lemos

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Nucelio Lemos as a new member of the Gynaecology team, who joins us as a new Associate Professor, from the University of São Paulo in Brazil. Within his interests in gynecologic surgery he has a focus on laparoscopic neurosurgery. Nucelio joins an expanding Division of Urogynaecology alongside Dr. Colleen McDermott, who relocated to the Sinai-Women's Division in January 2017.

Assistant Professor

Leslie Po
Genevieve Bouchard-Fortier
Nathan Roth
Georgina Wilcock
Helena Frecker

Lecturer

Kayode Ayodele	Susan Shinoff
Karen Gronau	Sheldon Girvitz
Karim Ben Omran	Eve Fried
Sam Soliman	Maher Abou-Seido
Rebecca Cash	Monique Rose
Miriam Ang	Rahmani
Marilyn Sutander	Kiran Sahi
Prema Vaidyanthan	Koo Chun (Kooyeon)
	Quynh Le

Faculty Development Day Awards

Chair's Awards

Dr. Sabrina Lee: Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
Dr. Haidar Mahmoud: Excellence in Integrated Undergraduate Teaching
Dr. Deborah Robertson: Excellence in Postgraduate Teaching
Dr. Melissa Tai: Excellence in Integrated Postgraduate Teaching
Dr. Nir Melamed: Outstanding Research Potential
Dr. Howard Berger: Sustained Research Excellence
Dr. Mark Yudin: Excellence in Research Facilitation
Dr. Kimberley Liu: Excellence in Postgraduate Program Development and Innovation
Dr. Suzanne Wong: Excellence in Continuing Medical Education Teaching
Dr. Jamie Kroft & Dr. Grace Liu: Excellence in Continuing Medical Education Course Coordination

Undergraduate Teaching Awards

Dr. Kerry Myckan: Credit Valley Hospital
Dr. Peter Scheufler: Mississauga Hospital
Dr. Mara Sobel & Dr. Rohan D'Souza: Mount Sinai Hospital
Dr. Nicholas Shilletto: North York General Hospital
Dr. Nir Melamed: Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
Dr. Abheha Satkunaratnam: St. Michaels Hospital
Dr. Melanie Caetano: St. Joseph's Health Centre
Dr. Melanie Ornstein: Toronto East General Hospital
Dr. Jing Qin: The Scarborough Hospital

Dr. Matthew Morton Award (Excellence in Education)

Dr. Dini Hui

Doug Canell Award (Sustained Excellence in Postgraduate Education)

Dr. Paul Bernstein

McArthur Scholar Award (Excellence in Research)

Dr. Sarah Ferguson



THE SMALL & BIG THINGS IN LIFE



Darl Edwards (PGY3) and his wife welcomed their newborn son on December 17th, 2016. Welcome Jaden Omari Edwards to the OBGYN family.

Andrew Walker and **Melissa Walker (PGY3)** welcomed Jack Walker Davidson on Nov 2, 2016 at 20:06 weighing 7lb 8oz. Delivered by the amazing Jackie Thomas!



Rebecca Cherniak (PGY2) pictured with her husband Noah Kochman on their Wedding Day held September 18th, 2016.

Kelly Chu welcomed number three to her family on August 21, 2016 at Trillium Health Partners, Madeleine Emma Green is pictured above with her brothers Ethan and Matthew.



Julian Rosenbaum and **Humara Edell (PGY2)** were married on August 7th, 2016 pictured here with their dog, Taz. Also, seen below are some of the PGY2s who attended the wedding.



Research Day

Date: April 28, 2017
Time: 8:00 am – 6:30 pm
Location: St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts,
27 Front Street East, Toronto, ON. M5E 1B4

We are pleased to have Dr. Dorothy Shaw, Professor at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of British Columbia and Vice-President, Medical Affairs at BC Women's Hospital as our Henderson Lecturer for our 34th Annual Research Day. Dr. Shaw is an outspoken advocate for women's sexual and reproductive health. She was recently recognized for her contributions as a leader in advancing women's health care and equity with the appointment of officer in the Order of Canada. We look forward to Dr. Shaw's lecture entitled, "How evidence informs advocacy for women's health– a lifelong journey."

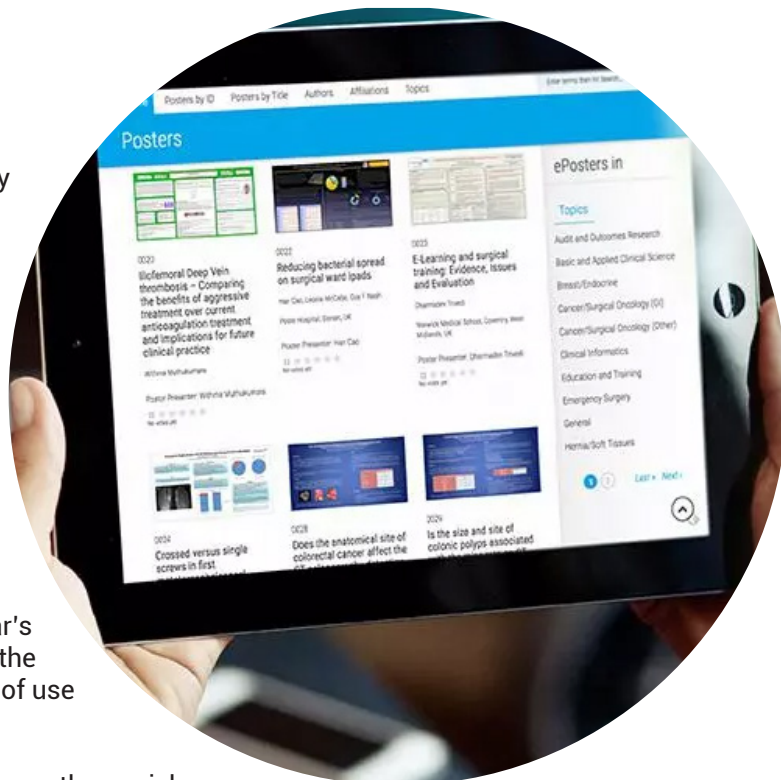
As one of our biggest events, our Annual Research Day showcases our Department's strength in research, and serves to encourage new collaborations and partnerships within our Department and affiliated institutions. In this year's Research Day, posters will be presented electronically with the use of ePostersLive®, which has been selected for its ease of use as well as for its environmental friendliness.

All ePosters can be created with any software application the authors wish to use, such as Microsoft PowerPoint, Apple Pages or Keynote, Adobe InDesign or other. Submission of ePosters will be done through the internet, quickly and easily, using a user-friendly wizard. Instant notification is automatically provided once the ePoster has been successfully submitted. All ePoster corresponding authors will be provided creation and submission guidelines via (a) email and (b) the Research Day website.

With ePosters, no printing, carrying and hanging of posters on boards will be needed. The ePosters will be presented in the venue hall and lobbies in various ways:

- on desktop/laptop computers where every participant will be able to search, sort and view any ePoster, anytime during the event, by poster title, author names, institutions, and keywords
- on large, high-definition displays in near physical dimensions, in replacement of the traditional poster boards
- available online with the permission of their authors and accessible via smartphones and tablets during the event

For more information, questions and guidance on ePosters please visit www.eposterslive.com. Those selected for poster presentations will receive an invite to submit an ePoster after April 3, 2017.



Faculty Development Day

The theme of the 2016 Faculty Professional Development Day was Faculty Mentorship and Wellness. This event took place November 11, 2016 at Vaughan Estates and was attended by over 100 faculty members. The program goal was to encourage faculty mentorship and wellness by presenting current knowledge, skills and strategies on the effective management of stress related to clinically challenging events, the achievement of desired career goals through genuine mentorship support, and the development of a sense of personal fulfillment and meaning in one's work and life. The program objectives were to:

1. Describe skills to improve mental readiness and achieve peak performance in medical practice.
2. Use intentional role-modelling to support the competency by design framework.
3. Apply principles of mindfulness to enhance professional practice and personal well-being.
4. Explain ways to manage stress brought on by patient harm and medico-legal difficulties.
5. Identify principles of establishing a mentorship program in the Department.
6. Examine impact of sleep loss on health and patient care, and sleep loss compensation.
7. Identify late career transition phenomenon and how stakeholders can take action for success.
8. Discuss effective mentorship, for mentors and mentees, in clinical and research spheres.
9. Discuss the ethics of research authorship.
10. Define "success" in academic medicine and how faculty can "thrive" in the academic culture.

The day featured a series of lectures and interactive small group sessions that focused on topics that align with this year's theme, faculty mentorship and wellness.

Lectures:

Dr. Brian Murray, board certified in Neurology and Sleep Medicine, delivered the plenary lecture entitled "Sleep: Your Health and Clinical Practice." This lecture addressed the basic principles of sleep physiology, the effects of sleep loss on health and the impact it has on patient care. Additionally Dr. Murray highlighted strategies to compensate for sleep loss.

The keynote lecture entitled "Thriving in Academic Medicine" was given by Dr. Karen Leslie, Director of the Centre for Faculty Development. This lecture identified how faculty can thrive in the academic culture, defined academic identity within one's own practice setting and covered various conceptions of success within academic medicine.

An awards ceremony followed these sessions where select faculty received Master Teacher Awards, Undergraduate Teaching Awards, and Chair's Awards including the inaugural recipient of the Matthew Morton Award, Dr. Dini Hui. See the list of award recipients on page 7.

Congratulations to all award recipients. Thank you to all those who participated! The event was a great success.



Chair's Summer Studentship Program

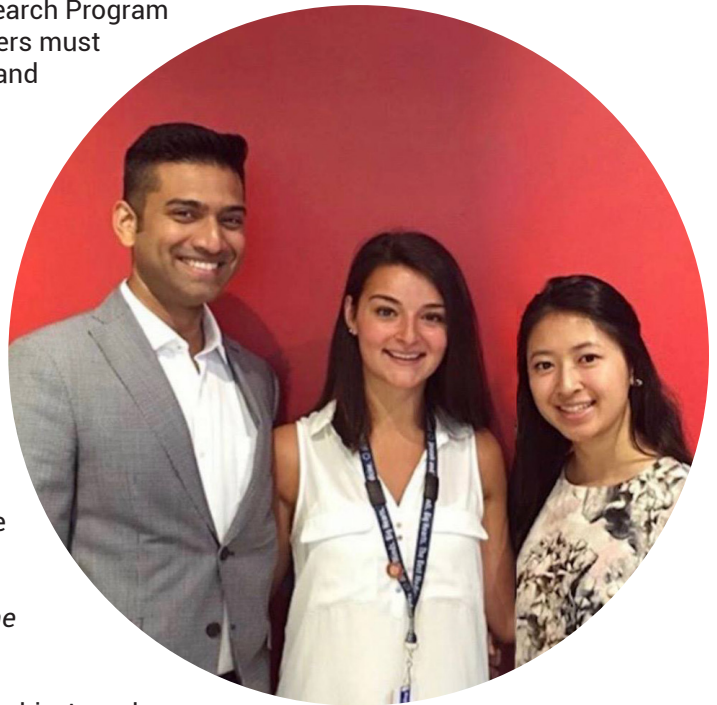
The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology's Summer Student Research Program was started in 2015 by Dr. John Kingdom as a way to empower the research capacity and productivity of faculty members, while promoting training excellence and research exposure for students across the full breadth of the OBGYN specialty. The program encompasses the University of Toronto CREMS Summer Research Program as well as the Chair's Summer Student Award. Faculty members must have a primary appointment in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology to be eligible for participation.

Chair's Summer Student Award:

The Chair's Summer Studentship Award Program's objective is to have faculty members provide training and research opportunities for students interested in the field of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

In 2016, in addition to 5 successful CREMS Students Awards, we were able to fund a total of 8 Chair's Summer Studentship Awards. The 2016 Chair's Summer Studentship Awards were given out to support research projects ranging from *"Current Approach to Transfusion in Pregnant Women with Sickle Cell Disease"* to *"The Effect of Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors on the Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause. A Pilot Study."*

The call for applications for the 2017 Chair's Summer Studentship Awards ended at the end of February. We have received over 30 applications that are currently being reviewed by a panel led by Dr. Kellie Murphy, Vice Chair of Research.



For the Chair's Summer Studentship Awards, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology will fund up to \$3,500 per award with a match requirement of \$1,500 from the faculty member. All deliverables need to be met prior to award disbursement. The Department wants to encourage faculty members to fully leverage the CREMS Program and our Chair's Summer Studentship Awards to promote more research opportunities for students and to foster future interest and collaborations in the field of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.



Pictured top: Dr. Rohan D'Souza with his summer students, Danielle Wuebbolt & Vanessa Nguyen
Pictured bottom: Dr. Wendy Wolfman with her summer student Amara Matthews

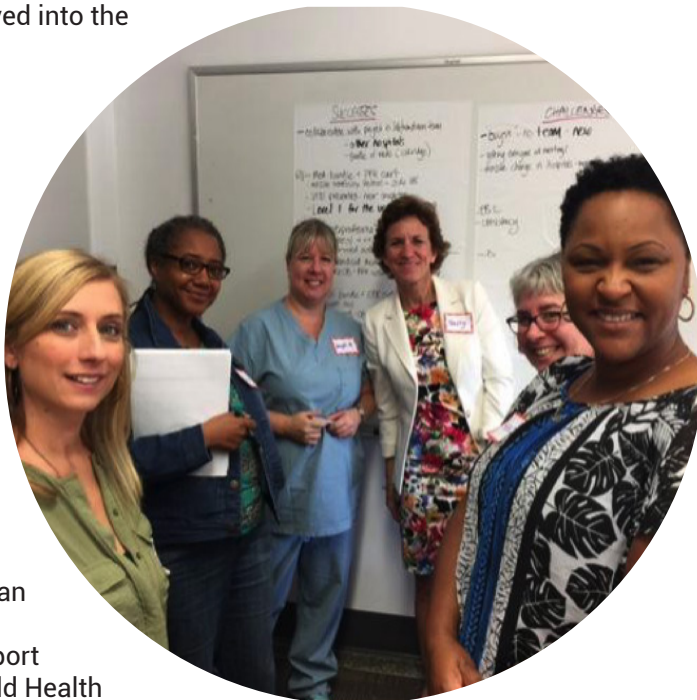
Quality Improvement & Patient Safety (QIPS)

The GTA-OBS Network

By Jon Barrett

The GTA-OBS Network continues its drive for quality in the region and is expanding. Joining forces with McMaster University, the Network has evolved into the Southern Ontario Obstetric Network – or SOON.

- Investigators from three of our hospitals were awarded a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) research grant to investigate obesity, hypertension, and diabetes.
- In the field of postpartum hemorrhage, the work of the Delphi Consensus Conference on Placenta Accreta is complete and has been presented at international scientific meetings.
- A postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) bundle has been rolled out across the Network and process and outcome measures are being evaluated.
- A shoulder dystocia training module/simulator has been distributed and is in the process of being evaluated.
- A group meeting on preterm birth was held and a cervical length screening initiative in the Network will begin soon.
- A new initiative to address the increasing rate of Caesarean section is in process.
- A major initiative, in association with the Neonatal Transport Committee of the Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health (PCMCH), will investigate the optimal place of birth for premature infants.
- Inter-hospital Rounds every three months will update Network members on ongoing projects.



Gynaecology Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QIPS)

By Lisa Allen

Increasing quality and standards of care were the focus of the Department's annual strategy session on November 11, 2016. Discussion centered on Gynaecology, highlighting numerous ongoing initiatives throughout the Department:

- Process and Safety for Pregnancy of Unknown Location Management
- Risk Factors for Transfusions with Myomectomy and Standardized Preoperative Clinical Optimization Pathway
- Structured Communication Tools for Obstetrics and Gynaecology Resident Handover
- Emergency Management of AUB
- The development of a GTA-wide surgical Gynaecological Quality Scorecard

Drawing on the QI initiatives presented and possible approaches to collaboration, leaders from all key sites co-created a high-level approach for collaborative efforts on Gynaecology over the next two years. Key components included identifying a high-impact initiative for collaboration, creating a shared network/infrastructure to provide resources in support of QI initiatives, ensuring data integrity, and developing scorecards to help drive decision-making.

The Benign Gynaecology Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (BGQIPS) Committee continues to evolve its role in the Department, informed in part by the strategic planning session. The membership has grown to 13 members as QIPS capacity within our Department expands, with a diverse representation of hospital sites. A call-out for interested Residents and Fellows resulted in a large number of interested individuals, from which several have been invited to join the Committee.

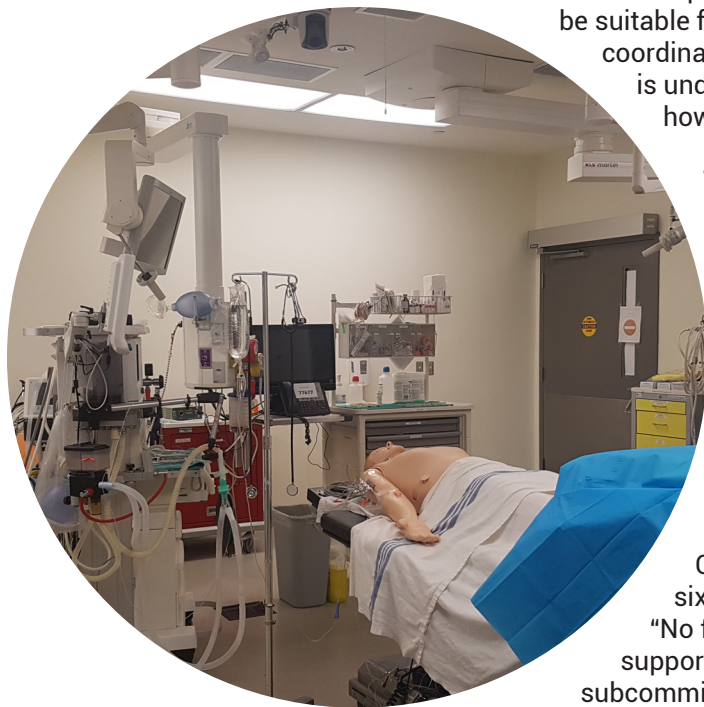
The Committee has formed three Subcommittees and each has met to begin developing projects within their mandate:

1. Pregnancy of unknown location
2. Blood conservation
3. Hysterectomies

The BGQIPS Committee is linking with other structures in quality improvement within the University. Dr. Pauline Pariser and the Family Practice SCOPE project are interested in developing a broad-based resource guide on available gynaecology resources for Family Practice physicians. The University of Toronto Best Practice in Surgery Committee has invited the Lead of the Benign Gynaecology QIPS committee to join as it expands its mandate to develop preoperative care guidelines applicable across all perioperative services.

Residency Program Update

The CaRMS Selection process is underway for CaRMS 2017. This year, we were excited to add a Skills Test component to our selection process that has helped to identify candidates who may not be suitable for a surgical program. The test assesses basic eye-hand coordination and ability to function in 3 dimensions. This component is under Dr. Eliane Shore's leadership. We are very excited to see how this rolls out.



We are pleased to announce the Night Float Committee's summary of the U of T experience on implementation of a NF system was published in the November 2016 edition of the JOGC, entitled "A Commentary on the Development of a Night Float Call Model for Obstetrics and Gynaecology Residency: The Process and Resident Perceptions." Authors include: Lynn Sterling, Carmen McCaffrey, Rebecca Rich, Michael Sector, Jessica Green, Lindsay Shirreff and Donna Steele.

The OBGYN Residency Program received an outstanding final report (July 28 2016) from the PGME Internal Review Committee (IRC). The Internal Review Committee identified six strengths of our program, no weaknesses, and concluded, "No further action required." Strengths included a strong supportive infrastructure in the Residency Program Committee and subcommittees, the Resident Wellness Program, the LAR for PGY1s, extensive resident engagement, and an excellent transition-to-practice rotation. The report stated that our wellness program "should serve as a model for other divisions and departments. It is highly valued by the trainees."

Fellowships Program Update

PGME launched Application/Appointment systems Sponsored Trainee Applicant Registry (STAR) / Online Appointment Tracking System (OATS) in 2012 & 2014 respectively, to support the application submission for sponsored trainees & appointment management for all fellowships. The new system which is currently in the planning phase will allow:

1. Applicants to electronically submit their CV/application documents to fellowship programs
2. Program staff to manage those applications
3. Faculty to review and rank the applications in a standardized manner.

The 5-phase plan is in place to ensure the system meets program needs at launch sometime in 2018. If you have any issues relating to OATS, have feedback regarding the newly proposed system, or would like to schedule training sessions, please contact Nathan Harrison (nathan.harrison@utoronto.ca), Systems Coordinator at PGME.

In addition, we have a new fellowship program: Global Women's Health and Equity Fellowship under the supervision of Dr. Rachel Spitzer. We have a new Program Director at St. Joseph's Health Centre, Dr. Mary Melchior, for Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery. For more information about the fellowship programs, visit: <http://www.obgyn.utoronto.ca/about-program-2>.



New Fellowship - Global Women's Health and Equity Fellowship

University of Toronto's Global Women's Health and Equity Fellowship program is operated in partnership with the Academic Model for Providing Access to Healthcare (AMPATH) in western Kenya, and our partner institution, Indiana University. This fellowship program is two years in length with significant time spent in Eldoret, Kenya at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, where trainees will be under the direction of a local AMPATH supervisor.

As the only Global Women's Health and Equity fellowship in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Canada, this program responds to the need identified by trainees to acquire formal expertise in a global health context. The fellowship will focus on addressing women's reproductive health concerns and needs within the context of their respective social, political and economic lives. By combining in-depth field experience in global women's health internationally with clinical and academic training in Canada, the program trains graduates to be leaders in the care of marginalized and vulnerable women both locally and internationally. It is with great excitement that as of July 2017, we will be welcoming our next fellow, Dr. Amanda Moore.



#LeanIn Campaign



When I was beginning my career, I had few role models I could emulate. Many of the women who preceded me in academic medicine had decided to focus on their careers and forgo a family life. But I was determined to have it all. I wanted to enjoy both professional success while enjoying life as a mother and wife. It's been a challenging balance to maintain, made more complicated by being married to another physician, but my husband and I have found a way to make it work, even if it meant letting my quest for perfection slip a bit.

Over the years since I entered this profession, I've watched as more and more women have faced similar hurdles. The good news is that we are overcoming them. As a result, women are increasingly represented in the faculty ranks. But as I've previously written, though female representation is rising, equity remains elusive. While just over half (52.4%) of our undergraduate medical class were women between 2006 and 2015, only 36% of our faculty members are female. Across divisions in the Department of Medicine, the numbers can vary from 16% in cardiology to 63% in rheumatology.

The reasons for this are many – some of which we know, and others we are just starting to understand. But just as there isn't one cause, there isn't one solution. If we're going to address the gender imbalance within our faculty ranks, we have to undertake a variety of approaches. In the Department of Medicine, we have put an emphasis on mentorship and I am very thankful for the work of Dr. Sharon Straus on that front. Sharon is the Vice Chair, Mentorship, Equity and Diversity in our department, which was a role created in November 2015 to support the recruitment and retention of our excellent faculty through mentorship, increasing faculty diversity to reflect our population, and ensuring a safe and professional work environment.

Our emphasis on mentorship is driven from literature that has demonstrated its effectiveness among academic faculty. We are supporting mentorship by developing mentorship facilitators who will foster the relationship between mentors and mentees. We are organizing regular mentor/mentee workshops, recognizing excellent mentors and highlighting the impact great mentors can have. We have also created a mentorship toolkit that provides many great resources.

I am also pleased to see that the Faculty of Medicine is promoting mentorship through a new video based on the popular #LeanInTogether video series from Sheryl Sandberg's Lean In organization. These are all great initiatives, but we can go even further. The Equality Challenge Unit, which is based in the United Kingdom, provides us with a great example of what could be done through the Athena SWAN Charter. The charter evolved from work between the Athena Project and the Scientific Women's Academic Network (SWAN), to advance the representation of women in science, technology, engineering, medicine and mathematics. It is based on ten key principles that commit organizations to address gender equality broadly, and not just barriers to progression that affect women.

While there is more to do, I'm inspired by the discussions occurring throughout our Faculty – from our students to senior administrators, and including both men and women – on their personal commitment to advancing gender equality in academic medicine. Why? Because it's 2016.

Gillian Hawker

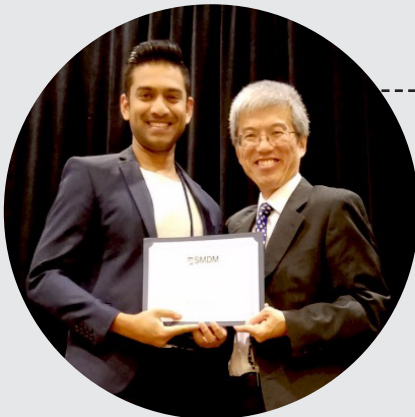
Sir John and Lady Eaton Professor
Chair, Department of Medicine

Awards



Dr. Andrée Gruslin Award
Best of Best in Resident Research Presentation
Awarded to **Rebecca Rich** for her research presentation
"Selecting performance indicators for maternity care in circumpolar regions: a modified Delphi approach"

Dr. **Alan Bocking** was the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to Women's Health in Ontario and Canada at the Annual Dinner of the Ontario Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (OSOG) and Ontario Region of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC) on December 1, 2016. The picture includes from left to right Dr. Bill Mundle (Chair of OSOG), Dr. Jennifer Blake (CEO of the SOGC), Dr. Alan Bocking and Dr. George Carson (President of the SOGC).



Dr. **Rohan D'Souza** won the Lee B. Lusted Award (Patient and Stakeholder Preferences), Society of Medical Decision Making 2016 - 38th Annual North American Meeting. Vancouver, BC, Canada.
Paper title: *"Preferences of pregnant women and family members for combined maternal-fetal health states arising from anticoagulant use in pregnancy."*

Matthew Leonardi was one of the two recipients of the 2017 PARO Trust Fund's "Resident Teaching Award" from the University of Toronto.

The faculty relies very heavily on the teaching provided by individuals in our residency training programs, not only to fellow residents, but also to medical students. Matthew being selected for this prestigious award is an indication of his commitment and passion to teaching.



News



Dr. **Amanda Selk** was elected to the North American Chapter of the ISSVD (international society for the study of vulvovaginal disease) Executive Council

Dr. **Terrence Colgan** is serving as a specialist member of the Health Technology Expert Review Panel on HPV-based cervical screening at the request of the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH).



On June 29th, 2016, Dr. **Marjorie Dixon** officially opened Anova Fertility & Reproductive Health. This private clinic is focused on reproductive medicine and women's health and includes a state-of-the-art full service embryology and andrology laboratory.

Dr. **Yaakov Benton** officially opened a satellite fertility clinic to Anova Fertility & Reproductive Health, Juno Fertility October 2016 in Kitchener/ Waterloo.



Dr. **Marjorie E. Dixon** was interviewed across several major magazines and websites including Coveteur, Flare Canada and Vanity Fair Italia. She was interviewed across a range of topics from Surrogacy to Self-aware fertility.

Recent Grant Success

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Lipidomics: A Novel Tool to Define Human Placental Development and Function Across Pregnancy

Total Funding Amount: \$1,918,737 USD

Principal Investigator: Dr. Isabella Caniggia. Co-Applicants: Martin Post, Leonardo Ermini, Alan Bocking, Laurent Briollais, Stephen Lye, 09/20/2016 – 07/31/2021

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Cervical Morphology and Maternal Serum Blood Markers predict spontaneous human preterm birth

Total Funding: \$199,650 CAD over 2 years

Principal Investigator: Dr. Oksana Shynlova. Co-Applicants: Stephen Lye, John Sled, Wendy Whittle



Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

CIHR Preterm Birth Network Team Grant: "Improving Outcomes for Preterm Infants and their Families: A Canadian Collaborative Network"

Total Funding: \$4,250,000 CAD over 5 years

Principal Investigator; Dr. Prakesh Shah and many others

Innovation Grant

Minimizing Peri-operative Time Delays – Maximizing Operating Room Efficiency

Total Funding: \$60,000 CAD

Principal Investigator: Dr. Eliane Shore & Dr. Teodor Grantcharov



ORF8 (Ontario Research Foundation)

"Improving the safety, efficacy and economics of future stem cell therapies."

Co-PI's; Dr. Ian Rogers, Dr. Andras Nagy

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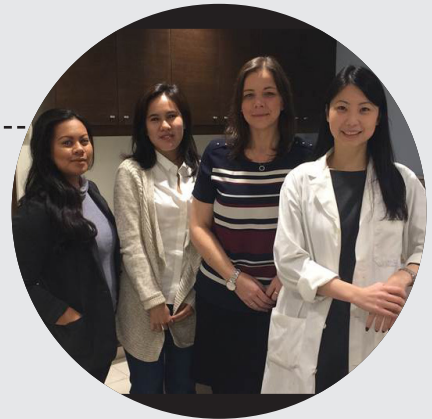
More News



Society for
Maternal • Fetal
Medicine

Sunnybrook MFM staff (Drs. **Melamed, Mei Dan and Barrett**) were once again well represented at this year's Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine in Las Vegas. Together with wide representation from all the University hospitals, UofT continues to make the largest Canadian impact on this influential International meeting. As a group we were pleased to be invited to be part of the North American/SMFM invasive placentation group. This opportunity sets the scene for a U of T Canadian initiative, using RedCap data management, to be presented at the Annual SOGC meeting in Ottawa this June. We are particularly proud of our trainees, including two Sunnybrook summer students (Mia Kibble and Alex Pittini) whose work was presented with the best of international MFM research. A warm thanks to our new Vice Chair of Research, Dr. **Kellie Murphy**, for arranging a memorable UofT social dinner. See you all next year in Dallas!

Mount Sinai Fertility opened its third location on November 1, 2016, in addition to the existing Downtown Toronto and Vaughan clinics. Mount Sinai Fertility in North York is led by Dr. **Crystal Chan MD, MSc, FRCSC (REI), FRCSCS (OB/GYN)**. Dr. Chan is a clinician investigator and a staff physician at Mount Sinai Fertility with an appointment at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute.



SimMom is a high-fidelity, or highly realistic, computerized mannequin that simulates five different childbirth scenarios, including breech birth. It is one of the most realistic models available: it can talk, has a pulse and has flexible joints that allow it to move as a real woman would.

The mannequin was recently purchased by the Allan Waters Family Simulation Centre and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology to improve educational, quality improvement and other simulations. Dr. **Michael Geary**, Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Michael's Hospital, said improving simulation was one of his main goals when he arrived two years ago.



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