welcome and support the incoming Interim Chairman Dr. Robert Bruijlelette and ultimately your new Chairman and Chief. On your behalf I thank Bob for taking on this new challenge. Good luck!

On behalf of the administrative staff of the Department, as well as my own family, I wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy holiday period and the very best wishes for the New Year.

Harvey J. Guyda

Staff Updates

Dr. Mark Anselmo has stepped down as Program Director for the McGill Pediatric Respirology Residency Program, effective July 24, 2010.

Dr. Harvey J. Guyda will step down as Chair, McGill Department of Pediatrics and as Pediatrician-in-Chief, McGill University Heath Centre (MUHC), effective December 31, 2010.

Dr. Harvey J. Guyda will also retire from McGill University as of December 31, 2010, with post-retirement status thereafter.

Dr. Richard Haber has been appointed as Coordinator for the Family Medicine Resident Program, effective November 1st, 2010.

Dr. Earl Rubin has stepped down as Coordinator for the Family Medicine Resident Program, effective October 31st, 2010, after having held this position for 14 years. We sincerely thank him for his commitment over these many years.

Dr. David Zielinski has been appointed as Program Director for the McGill Pediatric Respirology Residency Program, effective September 1st, 2010.

Staff Resignations

Dr. Mark Anselmo resigned from his position as staff respirologist in the Division of Pediatric Respiratory Medicine at MUHC, as well as from his academic appointment as Assistant Professor GFT (H) within the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University, effective July 24, 2010.

Dr. Barry Pless resigned from his position as staff physician in the Division of General Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, at the MCH of the MUHC, as well as from his academic appointment as Professor within the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University, effective May 31, 2010.
Dr. Marie-Noë! Primeau resigned from her position as staff physician in the Division of Pediatric Allergy and Clinical Immunology at MUHC, as well as from her academic appointment as Assistant Professor GFT(H) within the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University, effective September 1st, 2010.

NEW RECRUITMENT

Dr. Alexandre Barbier has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (non-tenure track) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of Neonatology of the MUHC, effective July 1st, 2010. Dr. Barbier is a graduate of the Université Pierre et Marie Curie Medical School in France (MD 1999). He completed his Pediatric and Neonatology training in Paris, France and did his formation complémentaire in Neonatology at the Université de Montréal, CHU Sainte-Justine (2008-2010). His main area of future interest is Medical Education and he would like to complete a Certificate in Medical Education at McGill in the years to come.

Dr. Caroline Ouellet has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (non-tenure track) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of Pediatric Medicine of the MUHC, effective September 1st, 2010. Dr. Ouellet is a graduate of the Université de Montréal (MD 2001). She completed her General Pediatrics and Pediatric Emergency Medicine training at the Université de Montréal followed by her formation complémentaire in Pediatric Emergency Medicine/Child Protection at the British Columbia Children’s Hospital of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

Dr. Ben Moshe Shoshan has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (non-tenure track) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of Pediatric Allergy and Clinical Immunology of the MUHC, effective September 1st, 2010. Dr. Shoshan obtained his MD in 1996 at the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University, Israel. He completed his Pediatric training at the Dana Children’s Hospital in Tel-Aviv and then came to Montreal to undertake postdoctoral research in Allergy and Immunology with the Clinical Epidemiology Group (MGH) (2006-2009). He is currently completing a Masters in Clinical Epidemiology at McGill University.

Dr. Pia Wintermark has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (non-tenure track) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of Neonatology of the MUHC, effective July 1st, 2010. She has an appointment as Associate Member in the Division of Pediatric Neurology at the MUHC with Associate membership in the Integrated Program in Neurosciences at McGill University.

Dr. Wintermark is a graduate of University of Lausanne, Switzerland Medical School (MD 2002). She completed her residency in the Division of Neonatology in Lausanne, Switzerland in 2006 and her formation complémentaire at Children’s Hospital in Boston in the Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program. Dr. Wintermark has developed a clinical and a research interest in cerebral perfusion changes in neonates with hypoxic-ischemic injury.

Dr. David Zielinsky has accepted a position as Full-Time Assistant Professor Clinical (non-tenure track) in the Department of Pediatrics, at McGill University and as staff physician within the Division of Pediatric Respiratory Medicine of the MUHC, effective September 1st, 2010. Dr. Zielinsky is a graduate of the University of Manitoba (MD 1999). He did his core pediatric training at Memorial University (2003-2006) followed by a Pediatric Respiratory Medicine Fellowship at McGill University. He was Pediatric Respirologist and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Queen’s University/Hotel Dieu Hospital where he took charge of the Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Clinic, in addition to providing respiratory consultation. He is currently pursuing a correspondence Master’s degree in Epidemiology from the University of London.

MATERNITY LEAVE REPLACEMENT

Dr. Samir Hussain is doing a maternity replacement for Dr. Caroline Ouellet from September 20, 2010 to September 20, 2011.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO

Dr. Alice Chan-Yip for having been appointed to the Order of Canada on June 30, 2010, by Governor General Michaëlle Jean, for her contributions to the provision of health care in Montreal as a pediatrician, medical educator and volunteer, and notably for her innovations in treating immigrants. The Order of Canada was established in 1967 to honor outstanding achievements and service in various fields.

Congratulations to . . .

Dr. Aurore Côté for receiving the MUHC Director General’s Award in the physician category.

Dr. Geoffrey Dougherty for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 43rd Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 27, 2010.

Dr. Ciaràn Duffy for having been granted the MGH Foundation Award by the Awards Committee of the MUHC Research Institute. The award was presented at the Annual Research Institute MUHC Awards Dinner on October 20, 2010.
Dr. Gilles Julien for having been honored as a Great Montrealer by the Montreal Board of Trade at the Loft Hotel, on November 23rd, 2010. Dr. Julien is a pediatrician whose Foundation Dr Julien organizes social projects and health programs for disadvantaged children.

Dr. Feige Kaplan for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 43rd Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 27, 2010.

Dr. Michael Kramer for having been the 2010 recipient of the Pediatric Academic Leadership – Clinical Investigator Award, in recognition of his administrative leadership in the entire child health research community in Canada, in addition to having a very prominent role in influencing child health globally. The award was presented at the Pediatric Chairs of Canada (PCC) 2010 Annual Fall Meeting in Winnipeg, on October 15th, 2010.

Dr. George Mandich for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 43rd Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 27, 2010.

Dr. Bruce Mazer for having received the 2009 CSACI Award for Research in Immunology. This award is given to a Canadian Scientist recognized for his contribution to the science of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

Dr. Bruce Mazer for having chaired the first Canadian Workshop on B-cell Tolerance in Allergic Diseases, held in Montreal, on October 18-19th.

Dr. Barry Pless for having received the 2010 Emeritus Researcher Award from the Quebec Population Health Research Network for his exceptional contribution to the field, not only in Quebec, but nationally and internationally.

Dr. Celia Rodd for having been granted the inaugural Patrick M. Doran Teacher of the Year Award 2010. This award was granted by the adult endocrinology fellows at McGill.

Dr. Ruth Russell for having been inducted in the McGill Quarter Century Club, at its 43rd Annual McGill Quarter Century Club Gala, on October 27, 2010.

Dr. Mark Wainberg for having been honored with the 2010 Prix du Québec, in recognition of his contribution to the social and scientific advancement of Quebec.

AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DELIGHTED PARENTS:

Dr. Catherine Henin on her baby girl (Camille), born on June 29, 2010.

Dr. Caroline Ouellet on her baby boy (Julien), born on October 25, 2010.

McGill Faculty of Medicine

Maclean’s rankings released!
The magazine’s latest ranking of Canadian universities hit newstands once again, with McGill, Mount Allison and Simon Fraser all returning to the top spot in their respective categories. It’s the sixth year in a row for McGill in the "medical doctoral" category for undergraduate education at schools with a range of PhD programs, research and medical schools.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STAFF MEMBERS

Dr. Nada Jabado on her promotion to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, effective June 1, 2010.

Dr. Bruce Mazer on his promotion to the rank of Full Professor, GFT-U, effective June 1, 2010.

Dr. Annette Majnemer on her appointment as Interim Director of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy, McGill University Faculty of Medicine, as of July 1st, 2010.

Dr. Constantin Polychronakos on his appointment as tenure-track Professor (GFT-U) in the Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, for the term beginning 1 September 2009 and ending 31 August 2014.

Dr. Aimee Ryan on her promotion to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, effective June 1, 2010.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING RESIDENTS

Brenda Gentile, (R-1) Internal Medicine, for having won the 2010 Montreal Children’s Cushing Memorial Prize in Pediatrics. This is what she said in her thank you letter to Dr. Guyda: “….My pediatrics rotation was a great experience that I will always remember. Having been once a patient at the Children’s, and later a student, I can say without a doubt that the MCH is one of the finest institutions around!”

Dr. Mylène Dandavino for having graduated from Maastricht University in the Netherlands last July and received a Master’s of Health Professions Education. Dr. Dandavino will join the staff of the Department of Pediatrics on March 1st, 2011.

Dr. Nadine Korah for having been selected as Site Chief at the Montreal Children’s Hospital-MUHC, from July 1st, 2010 to June 30th, 2011, inclusive.
THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE (MUHC)
MONTREAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL (MCH)

QMENTUM - Accreditation Visit: from September 27 to October 1, 2010

The MUHC achieved a score of 91.5 per cent—remarkable for the size and complexity of this organization — and Accreditation with Condition, which is pretty much par for the course for hospitals of our scope. This means, however, that our accreditation is contingent on our submitting evidence of improvements. Some of this work calls for immediate attention within six months. Other actions have a twelve-month timeframe while we are to report back on other recommendations at our next Qmentum visit.

In addition to areas for improvement, the official report also highlights leading practices, which Accreditation Canada define as “commendable or exemplary organizational practices that demonstrate high quality leadership and service delivery, and that are worthy of recognition as organizations strive for excellence in their specific field or for what they contribute to health care as a whole”. One leading practice among those which were singled out at the MUHC is the:

Intensive Ambulatory Care Service / Clinical Investigation Unit, at The Montreal Children’s Hospital.

Congratulations to the leaders and members of these teams responsible for the aforementioned practices for embodying The Montreal Children’s mission and vision.

RESULTS OF THE QUEBEC COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS’ ELECTIONS

On October 7, the Quebec College of Physicians filled the ten positions that were open on its Board of Directors. We are pleased to report that three MUHC physicians were elected by their peers to a four-year term.

Two physicians practice at The Children’s, namely Dr. Aurore Côté, Director of Apnea and Remote Recording Division of Respiratory Medicine, and Dr. Pierre Fiset, Chief of Anaesthesia. The third is Dr. Carolyn Freeman, Director of Radiation Oncology at the MUHC, holder of the Michael Rosenbloom Chair in Radiation Oncology at McGill. Please join us in extending congratulations and gratitude to our physicians for assuming the responsibilities that come with this important function.

THE MUHC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

EXTERNAL FUNDING RESULTS

Dr. Ciaran Duffy has received $2.5 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to lead a project entitled “CIHR Team in linking exercise, physical activity and pathophysiology in childhood arthritis: A Canadian collaborative Team.” The team brings together fourteen investigators from eight Canadian universities.

Dr. Eric Fombonne has received $120,000 from Autism Speaks to conduct an “Epidemiological study of pervasive developmental disorders in Mexico.”

Dr. Paul Goodyer has received a grant of $513,123 from the CIHR to investigate “Congenital nephron deficit and essential hypertension.” In addition, he has received $989,700 from Génome Québec for his project “Towards a new form of therapy for genetic diseases” and $388,090 from the Canadian Organization for Rare Disorders and the Cystinosis Research Foundation to study “Stem cells microvesicles rescue cystinosis in vitro.”

Dr. Lily Hechtman, in collaboration with co-investigators Drs. Sylvie Normadeau and Michel Janosz of the U. de Montréal, has received a grant of $121,467 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) in support of “Efficacité d’une intervention pour soutenir les jeunes présentant un trouble déficitaire de l’attention avec ou sans hyperactivité lors de la transition à l’école secondaire.”

Drs. Celia Rodd, Frank Rauch and Rosie Scuccimarri are members of a Canada-wide team of investigators headed by Dr. Leanne Marie Ward of CHEO that has received renewal support valued at $1,211,835 from the CIHR for the project, “Steroid-induced osteoporosis in the pediatric population: Canadian incidence study.” The CIHR has also recently approved renewal support of $323,179 for the “Three-year follow up of vitamin D supplementation in infancy” study conducted by Dr. Rodd with co-investigators Dr. Hope Weiler, Dr. Glenville Jones and Ms. Celia Gallo of McGill. Further, Drs. Rodd, Rauch and Weiler have received $140,000 from the Dairy Farmers of Canada to study the “Contribution of fortified dairy products to vitamin D status of young children from the Montreal region.” The Dairy Farmers of Canada have also approved a grant of $300,000 for the project, “My life study – McGill youth lifestyle intervention with food and exercise,” to be carried out by Drs. Rodd and Weiler with Hugues Plourde of McGill.

Dr. Jacquetta Trasler, in collaboration with principal investigator Dr. Sarah Kimmins and Dr. Mike Hallett of McGill, has received $200,000 from Génome Québec for the study, “Understanding causes of male infertility and paternal routes of disease in offspring.”
Dr. Bruce Mazer has been awarded a grant of $90,000 from Talecresi Biotherapeutics for his study entitled “Induction of T-regulatory cells by intravenous immunoglobulins.”

Dr. Caroline Quach has received $251,723 from the Fonds de la recherché en santé du Québec in support of “Surveillance de l’utilisation des antibiotiques : Identification du meilleur paramètre capable de prédire la résistance de la flore nosocomiale.”

Dr. Saleem Razack has been awarded a grant of $127,678 by the SSHRC in support of the project, “Understanding competing discourses and creating dialogues about equity, excellence and diversity in a medical school admissions process in a diverse urban setting.”

Drs. Michael Shevell, Annette Majnemer and Eric Fombonne are involved in the creation of a National Centre of Excellence called NeuroDevNet. Led by Dr. Dan Goldowitz at the University of British Columbia, NeuroDevNet was awarded more than $19.5 million over five years from the Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada to broaden understanding of the causes of pediatric disorders of brain development. Dr. Shevell heads a cerebral palsy (CP) demonstration project funded at $3.5 million. Dr. Majnemer is a co-investigator focusing on knowledge translation, while Dr. Pia Wintermark is participating in the CP project’s imaging component. Dr. Fombonne is co-investigator of an autism spectrum disorders demonstration project.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Congratulations to ...

Dr. Nada Jabado, for leading a research team with Dr. Jacek Majewski at McGill to prove that it is possible to identify a genetic disease in record time, thanks to a powerful and reliable exome sequencing method. The exome, a small part of the genome (< 2%), is of crucial interest to research on genetic diseases as it accounts for 85% of mutations. The team’s research findings were recently published in the journal Human Mutation.

Dr. Annette Majnemer for having delivered the 2010 Muriel Driver Lecture at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapy. The lectureship and accompanying prize represent the most prestigious Canadian award for a body of research in this field.

Mr. Brian Meehan, a research assistant in Dr. Janusz Rak’s cancer and angiogenesis laboratory at MCH, for having received the MUHC Director General’s Award for research.

Dr. Janusz Rak for having received the 2010 Aldo Award of Excellence in Research from the Montreal Children’s Hospital Foundation.

McGill Trainees

Mr. Donovan Chan and Ms. Hana Zouk, graduate students supervised respectively by Dr. Jacquetta Trasler and by Dr. Constantin Polychronakos, for receiving 2010 Graduate Student Prizes of Excellence for pediatric research from the Foundation of Stars.

Dr. Reyhan El Kares, a fellow in Dr. Paul Goodyer’s laboratory, for receiving a 2010 Prize of Excellence for pediatric research in the post-doctoral fellows’ category from the Foundation of Stars.

Pediatric Nephrology in South India

By Martin Bitzan

I was fortunate to receive the Global Child Health Travelling Fellowship award of The Montreal Children’s Hospital for 2010. With invitations to engage in a fledgling division of pediatric nephrology in Algeria or to join our “Sister Renal Center” in Bangalore, I finally decided to spend the time in India, at St. John’s Medical College (SJMC) in Bangalore. The core mission of SJMC, founded by the Catholic Bishops Conference of India, is the service of the underprivileged, rural and remote communities. While modest in resources and appearance, the institution is widely recognized for its excellence in medical teaching and care.

The MCH Nephrology Division entertains a long-term collaboration with the Children’s Kidney Care Center (CKCC) at SJMC Hospital, which started with a research project between Dr. Paul Goodyer and Dr. Kishore Phadke, director of the pediatric nephrology unit and current head of the department of Pediatrics at SJMC. The collaboration expanded a few years ago thanks to the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) sponsored “Renal Sister Program” which pairs “emerging” and “supporting” renal centers (usually from a Western country).

My goals for this fellowship were to gain insight into the practice of medicine, in particular pediatric nephrology, in a resource-poor society and to broaden the level of collaboration between our two centers emphasizing clinical expertise, teaching and the development of a Global Health curriculum.

My accommodation on the beautiful St. John’s campus with lush tropical vegetation was basic, clean and safe, and even the noise of the nearby traffic, magnified by constant honking and the armada of two- and three-wheelers from...
about 5:30 in the morning to 11 at night soon became part of my acoustic routine. Unbelievable, how quiet and orderly Montreal’s roads appeared to me at my return!

I participated in daily hospital rounds and nephrology clinics, including the exemplary, weekly interdisciplinary nephro-urology afternoon clinic, procedures, teaching sessions for fellows and rotating residents, and multidisciplinary/adult nephrology and transplant conferences. The colleagues were very open and let me experience their daily clinical practice. The lack of well-trained and experienced, independently working nurses was keenly felt and reflected an additional burden to the physicians. This is clearly an area of future development.

As a bonus, I rounded with the general pediatric team and updated my clinical knowledge of infectious and tropical diseases. The type of patients pediatricians see in the hospital is quite different from ours. Patients often come late with advanced diseases or complications. I was not used to see patients being admitted (and dying from) severe nephrotic syndrome, often complicated by pneumonia or peritonitis and primary or secondary resistance to glucocorticoids.

Medical insurance is practically non-existent, although “microinsurance” schemes for rural and poor populations have been started recently. Imagine, that patients (or their families) have to buy each dose of a medication to be administered in hospital – from a furosmide pill to (broad spectrum) antibiotics (those manufactured in India are relatively cheap and generously used) or albumin infusions. The latter can cost of 10 x daily minimum wage for unskilled labor and is therefore rarely used even in severe nephrotic syndrome. I followed a 6-year-old boy with atypical hemolytic syndrome (HUS). Despite technical problems with the procedure, the disease improved with plasma exchange therapy. Unfortunately, the HUS flared up again and the boy returned a week after discharge with worsening hemolysis, rising creatinine and heart failure. After lengthy consultations with the social worker and inquiries in the financial resources of the family, the father decided not to pursue further treatment and the family left with the boy without a new appointment. The pattern was all too familiar to my colleagues.

Children with end stage renal disease go through a similar scenario. Chronic dialysis and transplant are often beyond the means of families as well as the institution’s charitable funds. Treatment may be followed for a few weeks or months until the financial strain becomes evident. Families would have to sell house and land, thus depriving the remaining children of their education and a home. A difficult alternative. Indeed, many children worldwide are still barred from access to available, life-saving renal care.

One of the lessons I learned and which particularly impressed me, is the ability to work - and make do - with space limitations, overcrowding and limited

I wish to express my gratitude to the MCH Department of Pediatrics – and my division - for allowing me to take the time off and supporting this endeavor, and likewise to my hosts at St. John’s - for their generous hospitality, openness, first-hand experiences and teaching opportunities.

IN MEMORIUM
Dr. Ahmad S. Teebi passed away on July 22, 2010 in Qatar. Dr. Teebi was a member of the Departments of Human Genetics and Pediatrics from June 1997 to July 1998. Our condolences go out to his family.

OUR CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO
Dr. Bruce Mazer on the loss of his father, Mr. Sidney Mazer, who passed away on August 18th, 2010.

PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR AGENDA TO ATTEND:

DEPARTMENTAL MEETING
Wednesday, April 20th, 2011
8:00 a.m.
Forbes-Cushing Amphitheatre (D-182)
Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m.

DEPARTMENTAL RETREAT
Friday, June 3rd, 2011
8:00 a.m.
Hilton Bonaventure
Salon Le Portage
Breakfast will be served at 7:15 a.m.

TOWN HALL MEETING With Dr. Richard Levin
VP (Health Affairs) and Dean of Medicine
Wednesday, October 26th, 2011
8:00 a.m.
Forbes-Cushing Amphitheatre (D-182)
Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

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