The first Kresimir Krnjevic Research Award for Trainees was announced at the 18th Annual Harold Griffith Dinner and the recipient, chosen for her outstanding resident project, was Dr. Irina Strigo. Drs Kris Krnjevic and Gary Bennett of the Anesthesia Research Unit along with Dr. Karen Petersen from UCSF judged the submissions, selecting Dr. Strigo’s work entitled “Differentiation of visceral and cutaneous pain in the human brain”. Dr. Strigo obtained her PhD in July 2002 under the supervision of Dr. Catherine Bushnell and is currently enrolled in a post-doctoral fellowship also with Dr. Bushnell. Dr. Strigo will be leaving McGill in September to continue her work as a post-doctoral fellow at Columbia University (NY) under the supervision of Dr. Joy Hirsch. Congratulations Irina! We wish you much success.

At the 18th Annual Harold Griffith Memorial Lecture and Dinner, the John Westwood Sandison Award for Resident Professionalism was presented to Dr. Lori Olivieri. Dr. Olivieri has just completed her R2 year in the McGill Anesthesia Program. This award was established to recognize a McGill Anesthesia resident who, by virtue of his/her professionalism provides excellent, compassionate patient care, who embodies enthusiasm for both learning and teaching, and who is a role model in terms of character and leadership qualities. Dr. Olivieri was chosen as this year’s recipient for exemplifying high standards of clinical care as well as commitment to her patients, fellow residents, and the program.
From The Chairman

Education remains an important mission of the Department and students are a precious resource that we greatly value. It gives me great pride to report that all our R5 residents were successful in the Royal College Exams in June. I am also pleased that the Department was well represented in the Annual Resident Competitions at the Association des Anesthésiologistes du Québec in Quebec City, and at the Canadian Anesthesiologists’s Society Annual Meeting in Ottawa. It is refreshing to see so many residents and some graduate students actively participating at the Philip Bromage Research Day where they displayed professionalism in their presentations. We have also seen many residents attending the Continuing Medical Education Visiting Professor meetings series throughout the year. The Wesley Bourne and Harold Griffith Dinners are always well attended by residents and their spouses. The Welcome Party for the new residents and the Journal Club series are more opportunities for residents to get together and not only have fun, but also learn from one another. Needless to say, all this has been achieved thanks to the tireless dedication of our staff, who despite their busy clinical schedules, always find time to teach, mentor, and support our residents.

The residents remain an important asset for our Department and specialty; their quality reflects the dedication of those who devote their time to mentoring and educating them. The personal commitment by our Program Director, Dr. Ruth Covert, in the selection of the best students and their continuing evaluation processes makes our program strong. I, personally, enjoy meeting every year with each of the R4’s and discussing opportunities to further their careers at the end of their training, and also helping them prepare for the transition period towards a staff position in a community hospital or teaching hospital. Because of the renown our Department bestows, our residents are well received in many North American and overseas academic departments for a fellowship year.

Despite all these measures set in place to facilitate their learning process, our residents remain vulnerable as they work their way through the residency years amid constant pressure to perform, either in the OR, at Ground Rounds, to prepare a seminar, or to answer calls for consultations, and at the same time try to maintain a personal life!

During the last six months the Department lost one of our residents, Nassif Mechaalani, and this sad occasion has reiterated the necessity for our staff to watch over our young members for any sign of distress or anxiety. Our whole community has been affected by this tragedy, and the subject of stress in the work place was dealt with at the last John Sandison Education Day. In the frenzied assembly line of the modern operating room, it is hard to remember that practicing our profession involves a lot more than being safe and efficient. At times we forget that our personal well-being must remain in balance with our demanding professional commitments.

In the pages of this newsletter you will read about the loss of Dr. Tony Davenport, Col. John Bourne, Dr. Pierre Limoges and Dr. Nassif Mechaalani. All of them were warmly attached to this Department and their unselfish contributions are sadly missed.

Finally, I have been personally struck by the loss of my dearest wife, Loretta, who faced death last February after so much suffering with dignity and great courage. My children and I wish to thank many colleagues and friends who have been kind and supportive during these hard times. I am very grateful for the generous donations in my wife’s memory that have been used to set up a fund for resident education. Family and education were so precious to her.

-Franco Carli, MD, MPhil, FRCA
Amazingly, another academic year has come and gone. As the current R5’s are busy sweating it out at the Royal College exams, here is a brief summary of the happenings of the latter half of the year.

Happily, we have had some "small" additions to our anesthesia resident family. Congratulations to Dr. Roshanak Charghi and husband Jean-François on the birth of baby Xavier, and to Dr. Andrew Nice and wife Karen on the birth of baby Anika. No doubt they’re already working on becoming budding “gas passers” (...oops, I meant anesthesiologists)!

Earlier this year, we tragically lost a member of our group. Nassif’s presence will be sorely missed and our thoughts are with his friends and family. Please read the tribute by Dr. Eugene Delabays found on page 23 in the newsletter.

The second annual Sandison Residents’ Day was held earlier in the year, focussing on the topic of physician health and well-being. The lecture and workshop presented by Dr. Mamta Gautam from the University of Ottawa were extremely informative and the residents appreciated her insight and interactive approach.

Also named in honour of the late chairman, the second annual John A. Sandison award was presented to Dr. Lori Olivieri at the recent Harold Griffith dinner. This award is nominated by staff and is directed to a resident who exhibits the highest standards of professionalism and patient care. A well-deserved Congratulations, Lori!

Finally, we are eagerly anticipating the arrival of the incoming R1 residents on July 1. As usual, there will be a welcoming party in early August. Keep your eyes open for the new format and location, and then come out to meet and greet the new residents - the more the merrier!

This will be my final submission as the Chief Resident for 2002-2003. It has been both a challenge and a pleasure to represent and work for the anesthesia residents at McGill. I would like to thank all the residents for their enthusiasm and support in improving the program for future residents. All my best to Dr. Antoine Rochon, the new chief for the coming year!

-Dr. Vynka Lash, R4
Chief Anesthesia Resident

Dr. Christine Bozzer will stay on at McGill as a Fellow in Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain. Dr. Chantal Laniel is moving on to a staff position in Quebec. Dr. William Li Pi Shan will be joining the team at the Ottawa Heart Institute for a Cardiac Fellowship. Dr. Scott Nordstrom is taking on a position as staff anesthesiologist at Centre Hospitalier des Vallées de l’Outaouais, Pavilion de Hull. Dr. Susan Kaprelian, recently back from maternity leave, will be staying on at McGill until November, Dr. Joseph Kranjcevic will be joining the MUHC as a staff anesthesiologist working at the MGH site. Dr. Dé Tran will be relocating to Seattle as a Fellow in Regional Anesthesia at Virginia Mason Medical Center.
They were waiting in ambush for me as I was leaving the meeting. It was early May 2001. Drs Karri Yont and Brent Caton, chief anesthesia residents in Calgary, recounted a conversation they had had in the OR that day with a graduating Ob/Gyne resident. She enthusiastically described her experience at an Organon Canada course designed to review areas of concern related to their upcoming Royal College exams that the PGY5 residents across Canada had identified through a needs assessment. She teased me about how it was unfortunate that there was nothing similar for anesthesia residents. Very hesitantly, they asked me if there was any possibility that Organon would consider something similar for them and their colleagues. This was the genesis of the Anesthesia Making A Mark Resident Review Course. There were, however, many more pieces that needed to fall into place.

Ruth Pichora, our Anesthesia Product Manager, approved this venture - now she just had to "find" the money. At a meeting with an ACUDA member in Halifax, Organon’s motives, the program content, and accountability were scrutinized from every angle, and approval was granted.

As many of us know, the R5 year is very rewarding and very challenging. While trying to develop one’s knowledge and independence, there is the added pressure of preparing for the Royal College exam. Fortunately for us, McGill’s Anesthesia R5’s were able to participate in Organon’s Making a Mark review course in Anesthesia. Being the second group to participate in the course, we only have had feedback from last year’s group to give us an idea of what to expect. We knew that we were going to get a taste of the Royal College Exam experience from this course and a quick review of many important topics which were going to be great practice for us.

Our trip began as we travelled to Mississauga, Ontario accompanied by Mr. Gino Morneau from Organon, who would end up being our fearless leader for the remainder of the trip. Shortly after arriving, we were well into the lectures, which began with an introduction about what to expect from the exam process, followed by helpful tips for preparation and stress control. Before we knew it, we were deep into exam practice sessions (2-3 per person) that were set up to be as close as possible to the real thing. Through these exercises we were all able to feel the stress of the simulated oral exam sessions and we were shocked with the reality that the Royal College exams were only just over two months away!

Overall, the Making a Mark course was an excellent experience. After I complete the exam in June, I am positive that I will look back and appreciate the course even more. I would like to thank Organon for arranging the course and for taking good care of us over that extended weekend in February. A lot of the work of organizing and teaching the material, as well as the practice oral exams, was done by Anesthesiologists from all across Canada, including our very own Rick Bondy and Pierre Fiset. I would therefore like to thank all the Faculty members who dedicated their time, and for working very hard to make this an excellent learning experience. For the R5’s from McGill in particular, our time at the course was made that much better by our fearless leader Gino Morneau - for always being there to ensure we were fed and watered and for always knowing exactly where to go; he also took time to reassure us and to let us know things were going to be okay. I am sure that future R5 groups will have as much to gain from Organon’s Making a Mark course as we did this year.

- Dr. Joseph Kranjcevic, R5
The 2nd John W. Sandison Residents’ Education Day

“Physician Stress: Diagnosis and Management”

Mamta Gautam, MD, FRCP(C)
University of Ottawa

The John Westwood Sandison Residents’ Education Day was held on Thursday March 13th. This event is a tribute to Dr. John Sandison who was Chairman of the McGill Department of Anesthesia from 1977 to 1985. Throughout his professional life, Dr. Sandison persistently promoted quality education for medical students and residents. This year we were delighted to have Dr. Mamta Gautam from the University of Ottawa who spoke to staff and residents on the subject of “Physician Stress: Diagnosis and Management”. Following the lecture, all residents took part in a workshop that examined the stressors common in residency training and the methods of coping with them. The goal of Sandison Day is to expose faculty and residents during rounds and workshops to a broad range of issues that affect our practice.

-Dr. Ruth Covert, Residency Program Director

STRESS IN RESIDENCY: Striking a Healthy Balance

Mamta Gautam, MD, FRCP(C)

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the session, the participants will be able to
- Have a biopsychosocial understanding of the causes of stress in medicine
- Identify the main causes of stress in residency
- Review the number one cause of, and solution to, stress
- Learn how to balance their work and personal lives
- Understand why it is hard to reach out for help
- Identify key strategies with their peers to make residency a more humane process

Abstract:
Stress is an inherent part of medical training. This presentation will assist residents in identifying their own sources of stress, and learn how to better manage it. Using a biopsychosocial approach, the main causes of stress in residency will be outlined. The number one cause of stress, and the number one skill in dealing with stress, will be revealed.

Balance in our work and home lives is all about making choices. Specific strategies will be outlined to assist residents in achieving a healthier balance. Early warning signs of stress will be discussed. We will discuss why physicians have trouble reaching out for help, and how this can be positively changed. Specific ideas on how to make the workplace healthier will be explored. Numerous clinical vignettes will be given throughout the presentation and interactive participation will be encouraged.

Generously sponsored by Datex-Ohmeda
The Philip R. Bromage Anesthesia Research Day 2003 was held on April 13, 2003 at the Delta Hotel. Fourteen papers were presented by ten residents and four clinical/research fellows. The program covered a variety of topics from clinical case reports to prospective double-blinded controlled trials. Once again, the majority of presentations were about acute and chronic pain problems and their respective treatment. All presentations were excellent, well prepared and of great clinical and scientific relevance for our community. It has to be noted that two papers (Maintenance of normoglycemia during cardiac surgery by Dr. George Carvalho and Evaluation of a continuous heparin infusion on hemostatic function during cardiopulmonary bypass in cardiac surgery by Dr. Antoine Rochon) had also been selected for the Residents’ Competition organized by the AAQ and been presented at the annual AAQ meeting in Quebec City. Furthermore, Dr. Vynka Lash’s work on Low-dose ketamine after total knee arthroplasty was ranked among the best 6 abstracts submitted to this year’s CAS convention.

We are very pleased with the recent efforts our residents put into research as reflected by the fact that four of them will present original work at the CAS meeting in Ottawa.

This year, thanks to the generosity of Baxter Pharma, we were able to inaugurate a special award to honor the three best presenters. Winners of an original print, created specifically for the event by Paris-born artist Mr. Antoine Pentcch, were Drs Sarah Flatters, Antoine Rochon and George Carvalho. I would like to thank the award jury, Drs Ian Metcalf, Steven Backman and Gary Bennett, for their efforts and a special thanks to Dr. Krmjevic for standing in and presenting the prizes since Dr. Bromage, unfortunately, could not attend this year’s research day. We want to thank all supervisors and participants for their lively discussion and contribution to this important event. We particularly thank Ms. Donna MacFarlane for her organisational skills, which were exceptional as usual.

See you next year!

-Dr. Thomas Schricker

-Dr. Terence Coderre

Program

8:45-10:30 SESSION I: Presentations by residents, fellows and graduate students (10 min presentation, 5 min discussion).
Chair: Dr. Thomas Schricker

8:45-9:00 George Carvalho: Maintaining normoglycemia during cardiac surgery.
9:00-9:15 Antoine Rochon: Evaluation of a continuous heparin infusion on hemostatic function during cardiopulmonary bypass in cardiac surgery.
9:30-9:45 Karen Loo: Epidural analgesia for a laparotomy in a morbidly obese patient with a history of difficult intubation.
9:45-10:00 Branka Gvozdic: Recovery after open and laparoscopic gastric bypass surgery.
10:00-10:15 Xi Hong: The effect of analgesia and surgical approach on postoperative functional exercise capacity.
10:15-10:30 Omar Al-Radhwan: Laparoscopic cholecystectomy: implementation of a clinical pathway.

11:15-13:00 SESSION II: Presentations by residents, fellows and graduate students (10 min presentation, 5 min discussion). Chair: Dr. Terence Coderre

11:15-11:30 Faisal Siddiqui: Shoulder pain after laparoscopic cholecystectomy.
11:30-11:45 Garrett Kovarik: Phrenic nerve blockade for post-operative referred shoulder pain.
11:45-12:00 Farrah Morrow: Post-operative pain control for knee replacement surgery.
12:00-12:15 Vynka Lash: Low dose ketamine reduces morphine use after total knee arthroplasy.
12:15-12:30 Caroline Pukall: Touch and pain sensation in women with vulvar vestibulitis syndrome: Psychophysical and neural correlates.
12:30-12:45 Sarah Flatters: All neuropathies are not created equal.
12:45-13:00 Deven Chandra: Does the age of the anesthesiologist affect the quality of care provided? An examination of Canadian anesthesiologists’ ages with respect to CMPA closed claims.
Anesthesia Research Day

Dr. Schricker with residents and clinical/research fellows who participated in Bromage Research Day

Dr. Antoine Rochon, Artist, Mr. Antoine Pentsch, Drs. Sarah Flatters and George Carvalho

Research Day organizers: Drs. Terence Coderre, and Thomas Schricker

Dr. Kresimir Krnjevic who gave out certificates in the absence of Dr. Philip Bromage

Pain Nurse Specialist Holly Vali and Ms. Marie-Josée Blouin from Baxter Pharma

Dr. Ian Metcalf, member of the award jury

generously sponsored by Baxter PHARMA
The McGill Department of Anesthesia continues to offer second year medical students a one-week clinical rotation. Several McGill-affiliated hospitals are involved, including the Jewish General (Dr. Elise Dupont), the Montreal General (Dr. Ian Metcalf), the Montreal Children’s (Dr. Ted Reyes), the Royal Victoria (Dr. Frances Barry), St-Mary’s (Dr. Ramez Khairy) and, during the last few years, the Lakeshore General (Dr. Ray Hasel). Anesthesia staff, residents and technicians contribute their time and teaching skills from February to June each year as we cope with the increasingly larger medical student enrollment at McGill. We presently must accommodate 140 students.

Dr. Don Hickey lectures on Acute Pain Management for our Whole Class Teaching Day. Residents at all levels of training enthusiastically contribute their skills and time to small group airway and i.v. stations. Dr. Vynka Lash has helped co-ordinate their efforts and acts as liaison between Dr. Covert and the residents. The Royal College increasingly requires documentation of clinical teaching skills and hopefully this provides some experience. Students give positive feedback and appreciate everyone’s efforts.

Undergraduate electives are arranged in July and August for McGill students (First Choice) but other Canadian schools are encouraged to apply! From September to January we accept other Canadian and North American or foreign graduates for one-month periods. (for more information: www.medicine.mcgill.ca/)

Electives can be tailored to include combined rotations (eg: neonatal ICU and St-Mary’s) Chronic pain experience requires a certain level of expertise on the student’s part to allow adequate exchange of ideas.

Our new Undergraduate Administrative Coordinator in the McGill Anesthesia office is Ms. Sandra Cardoso (sandra.cardoso@muhc.mcgill.ca). She has been working with us for over one year and is a great help with questions concerning electives, evaluations, meetings and any other matters pertaining to medical students. Sandra may be reached at (514)934-1934, Ext 36546.

In the spring of 2004 we eagerly anticipate the opening of the Clinical teaching site and simulator lab at the site of the old Queen Elizabeth Hospital. This will greatly help with the increasing numbers of students and lack of physical teaching locations.

-Dr. Frances Barry
Undergraduate Program Director

We are expecting three new fellows from abroad for the coming year: Dr. Khaled Sedeek from Egypt and Dr. Jose Luiz Martinez from Columbia are scheduled to start their pediatric fellowships at the MCH in July. Both are funded by the Louis Sessenwein Pediatric Pain Fellowship. Dr. Jacqueline Nicolet from Switzerland will start her obstetric fellowship at the RVH in July. She is funded by the RVH Anesthesia Group.

We currently have three fellows in the program. Dr. Xi Hong from China is completing a joint research-clinical fellowship with Dr. Carli. She will return to China in September. Drs Sarah Flatters and Jordi Perez are the two recipients of the R. Melzack Research Pain Fellowship award.

It is clear that the fellowship program is doing very well. We hope to broaden its scope by increasing funding opportunities in the near future. Finally, I want to thank Ms. Sandra Cardoso for her diligent help.

-Dr. Gilles Plourde
Fellowship Program Director
Visiting professors have participated in several successful CME events this year.

The season started in September when Dr. Robert Sladen (Columbia) gave the Wesley Bourne Lecture on preoperative evaluation. The second joint MCH/Ste-Justine visiting professor was Dr. Gordon Finley (Dalhousie) whose topic was pain assessment in the pediatric population. The Hyman Brock Memorial lecture was given by Dr. Ian Thomson (University of Manitoba). He addressed the controversies surrounding the use of pulmonary artery catheters in cardiac anesthesia. Professor Bushnell organized the McGill Pain Day at which Dr. Michael Rowbotham (University of California) gave the keynote address on neuropathic pain. Dr. John Doyle (the Cleveland Clinic) updated us on airway management in February. The CME year was brought to a close with the Harold Griffith Lecture given by Dr. Beverley Orser (University of Toronto). She described her research on the basic mechanisms of anesthesia.

We demand a lot from our visiting professors. They lecture twice... to joint McGill surgery/anesthesia rounds and for evening CME... and also lead a resident seminar and make hospital visits. It is very valuable for all of us to be exposed to these distinguished leaders of our profession. Some lucky residents have had the opportunity to have lunch with the visitors. My thanks to the chief resident, Dr. Vynka Lash, for her help arranging this. The McGill Anesthesia office staff have also been of assistance, especially Ms. Sandra Cardoso who has worked very hard to make sure the program runs smoothly. I am also very grateful for the considerable financial support received for the program from both industry and individuals.

Next year promises to be equally exciting with visits from Drs Robert Byrick (University of Toronto), David Ferson (M D Anderson Hospital, Houston) and David Brown (University of Iowa).

I am always happy to receive your suggestions for future visiting professors and/or topics for discussion.

See you at CME!

Dr. Sally Weeks
CME Program Director

---

An Annual Joint Pediatric Anesthesia Lecture was set up in 2002. This joint venture unites Université de Montréal and McGill University. These lectures are designed with one main lecture oriented towards pediatric anesthetists, and a more general lecture on a pertinent subject in pediatric anesthesia. Our first guest speaker was Dr. Lawrence M. Borland, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesia, University of Pittsburgh. His lecture was entitled: "QA/Outcome - Public Health, Research & Routine Care". Dr. G. Allen Finley, Professor of Anesthesia and Psychology, Dalhousie University, spoke this past October. His lecture was entitled: “They’re not just small adults! The challenges of measuring children’s pain.” Lectures were held both at Hôpital Ste-Justine and the Montreal Children’s Hospital.

Both lectures were well received by the anesthesia community. This new CME activity is a response to a longstanding wish to unite Montreal’s anesthesia community. From this exciting beginning, we are preparing for another relevant and interesting pediatric lecture in October 2003.

Dr. Ted Hunter
Dr. Josée Lavoie

---

generously sponsored by Abbott Laboratories
18th Harold Griffith

Dr. Beverley Orser, Visiting Professor
University of Toronto

Dr. Catherine Bushnell, presents the Harold Griffith Medal to Dr. Beverly Orser

Dr. Ruth Covert and Tyco representatives Mr. Martin Jacques and Mr. François Drolet deliver the Tyco Healthcare award for Chief Anesthesia Resident to Dr. Vynka Lash

Dr. Franco Carli and Dr. Sally Weeks, CME Program Director, with the Griffith Family

Dr. & Mrs Ken Kardash, Drs Elise Dupont and Daniel Quance
Memorial Lecture

April 23rd, 2003
“Opening the Black Box: Mechanisms of Anesthesia”

Generously sponsored by tyco Medical/Healthcare
In February 2003, the Board of Governors approved the formation of the McGill Centre for Research on Pain.

Pain research has been identified as an integral part of the McGill University Strategic Plan, based on the importance of improving the treatment of pain as well as the outstanding community of pain scientists and clinicians at McGill. McGill has two endowed chairs devoted to pain research and has recently recruited six international leaders in the study of pain. Pain researchers at McGill hold positions as President of the Canadian Pain Society (Celeste Johnston), Treasurer of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) (Fernando Cervero), Editor-in-Chief of IASP Press (Catherine Bushnell), and Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Pain (Fernando Cervero). Members of our community serve on the Editorial Boards of Pain, Pain Medicine, Pain Research and Management, The Journal of Pain, The European Journal of Pain, The Journal of Neuroscience, Experimental Brain Research, and the Journal of Neurophysiology, among others. Three McGill researchers have received awards from the IASP (Ronald Melzack, Terence Coderre, and Jeffrey Mogil), and the Canadian Pain Society has awarded three McGill researchers the Distinguished Career Award (Ronald Melzack, James Henry, and Catherine Bushnell) and two the Early Career Award (Terence Coderre and Yves DeKoninck). The American Pain Society awarded its Frederick W. L. Kerr Basic Research in Pain Award to Gary Bennett in 1996 and to Catherine Bushnell in 2003.

Pain researchers are found throughout McGill, in the Faculties of Dentistry, Medicine and Science, in the Departments of Anatomy, Anesthesia, Epidemiology, Neurology & Neurosurgery, Nursing, Pharmacology, Physiology, Psychiatry and Psychology. Because of this wide dispersion of pain researchers, we have made a number of efforts to unite the pain community in order to facilitate the exchange of ideas and collaborations. Presently, we have an Annual McGill Pain Day, monthly journal clubs, and bi-weekly MUHC Pain Rounds, all of which bring together many of the pain scientists and clinicians. We have worked together and obtained a number of collaborative grants, the most notable being CFI and VRQ grants for a "Multicentre Pain Research Initiative."

The formation of the Centre for Research on Pain is the next step in our efforts to integrate and promote pain research at McGill. A number of activities are planned for the Centre, including scientific meetings, website databases, centralized listservs, a speaker exchange program, trainee award programs, initiatives to disseminate information to the public, development of partnerships with other centers and groups inside and outside the University, and interactions with government agencies and pharmaceutical companies to promote research and better pain management. These initiatives require the consolidated efforts of a Centre, with clear leadership, specific committees, and appropriate support staff.

The Centre temporarily will be virtual until an appropriate location is found. Negotiations are currently underway to locate core administrative and research facilities, and a precise space proposal will be presented soon to the administration. The ultimate physical location for the Centre should include facilities for both basic and clinical research. Ideally, the Centre for Research on Pain should be adjacent to the McGill-MUHC Pain Centre, thus promoting collaborative efforts among basic and clinical researchers.

The initial membership of the Centre includes a number of professors from the Department of Anesthesia, including Drs Asenjo, Bennett, Bushnell, Cervero, Coderre, Cogan, Shir and Ware. Dr. Bushnell is serving as Acting Director of the Centre, and Dr. Bennett is a member of the Executive Committee.

We’re all quite excited about the University’s commitment to pain research and hope to have a physical Centre soon, in which collaborative clinical and basic research will be promoted.

-Dr. Catherine Bushnell

Interim Director, Centre for Research on Pain
Dr. Catherine Bushnell’s lab... moved this winter from the 12th floor of the McIntyre Medical Building to the Strathcona Anatomy and Dentistry Building, where the human research branch of the McGill Centre for Research on Pain has now established human psychophysical and autonomic testing facilities. Drs. Bushnell and Bennett have staff and students at this site. Thanks to recent funding from Valorisation Recherche Québec (VRQ), we were able to hire a research nurse (Sahar Sabati), a research assistant (Nazma Mohammed) and a research associate (Dr. Spogmai Wassimi) to conduct studies in patients and normal volunteers. We also received two visiting scientists for three months this spring, Dr. Hakan Olausson, a neurologist from Göteborg University, and his graduate student, Helena Buckland. Ongoing research in the lab includes studies of emotional modulation of pain, using odors to change emotional state, studies in neuropathic pain patients examining forebrain correlates of chronic pain, and studies of intrinsic pain modulation circuits in the brain and their dysfunction in chronic pain conditions.

Dr. Gary Bennett’s lab... Shelley Davies, Ph.D., has joined the laboratory of Professor Gary Bennett as a National Institutes of Health (USA) Postdoctoral Fellow. Dr. Davies comes from the University of Sheffield (UK). Her research focuses on the molecular mechanisms that contribute to inflammatory and neuropathic pain.

Professor Fernando Cervero, MD, Ph.D. was recently appointed as the Director of the Anesthesia Research Unit, succeeding Prof. Catherine Bushnell. Prof. Cervero’s office and laboratory are at room 1207 in the McIntyre Medical Building.

The McGill University Faculty Senate has officially approved the creation of the McGill Centre for Pain Research. The Centre has over 20 members, among them are Drs. Francesco Asenjo, Gary Bennett, Catherine Bushnell (the Centre’s Acting Director), Franco Carli, Fernando Cervero, Terence Coderre, Yoram Shir, and Mark Ware from the Department of Anesthesia.

Dr. Fernando Cervero’s lab... This is my first year at the Anesthesia Research Unit, having joined McGill University in the summer of 2002. My main priority in these first months of work has been setting up a research laboratory and getting the necessary human and material resources to run it. Much of my time has been spent writing grant applications and learning to deal with the McGill way of doing things. This is the fifth University where I have worked and they are all different! Hopefully, the lab will be working and the team will be in place before this Newsletter appears in print.

My research life has continued in spite of the move, mostly dealing with pending issues from my previous laboratory. I have completed the supervision of two PhD Theses, one on the mechanisms of neuropathic pain induced by nerve section and neuroma formation and the other on dorsal horn mechanisms of secondary hyperalgesia. Several papers containing the results of previous work were published, accepted for publication or in various stages of reviewing. One of my postdocs from Madrid, Dr. Alba Galan, joined the lab in January 2003 to start a period of postdoctoral work here in collaboration with Dr. Alfredo Ribeiro da Silva from the Pharmacology Department. Alba is a molecular biologist interested in the cellular and molecular aspects of spinal cord processing of nociceptive signals. I am also looking forward to the arrival of two other postdocs who will be joining the lab in the next few months.

Finally, I continue to run the Editorial Office of the European Journal of Pain, thanks to modern communication technology across the Atlantic and the unflagging help of Marcela Toro, my editorial Assistant in Madrid. I have also spent a few hours worrying about the finances of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) to which I was elected Treasurer last summer. Overall, a transition year, enjoying the new job at McGill and, of course, the impressive Montreal winter.

Dr. Terence Coderre’s lab... There have been a number of changes in the lab over the past year. The awarding of a new CIHR grant has allowed us to take on two new students (Mark Pitcher in Neurology & Neurosurgery; Dimitris Xanthos in Psychology), and a postdoc (Naresh Kumar). We also said good bye to a long time research associate, Kiran Yashpal, who moved to the University of Western Ontario, with her husband, Jim Henry. Kiran’s leaving made room for another postdoc, Isabella Ruocco. Isabella and Mark are working together on our studies examining the trafficking and internalization of glutamate receptors, and how these processes are affected by persistent pain. Naresh is working on determining the regulation of glutamate release in the spinal cord dorsal horn, and how this process is affected by persistent pain. Dimitris is examining the mechanisms by which opioid sensitivity is enhanced following central inflammation. Another student, Sue Ambrosini, is hoping to complete a Master’s program in Psychology, and finish her thesis this coming summer.
The 7th Annual McGill Pain Day was very well attended with over 100 scientists attending from the Montreal area. There were over 30 posters displayed. Our thanks to Dr. Catherine Bushnell who organized this event.

**Plenary Lecture**

Dr. Michael Rowbotham, UCSF Pain Research Centre, presents “Strategies for Pharmacological Management of Neuropathic Pain: Disease, Mechanism, or Evidence Based?”

**Poster Session**

**Introductory Remarks & Poster Prizes**

Andy Dray, AstraZeneca: “Analgesia Discovery at AstraZeneca”
The Pain Relief Centre of MUHC

- What’s new?

Pain medicine has become an integral part of patient care, whether inside the hospital or in the community. The MUHC Pain Relief Centre is a part of the MUHC Department of Anesthesia, consisting of pain clinicians and basic scientists. It is recognized as one of the leading Pain Centres in Canada, providing state of the art multidisciplinary pain treatment and education. The Pain Relief Centre is an integral part of the recently approved McGill Centre for Research on Pain. This year the Pain Centre witnessed some noteworthy developments.

Facilities: We have moved to our new location on the 19th floor of the Montreal General Hospital. The renovated clinic offers better facilities for patients and staff and contains a dedicated area for clinical research.

Clinical activity: This year we expect to treat more than 3500 ambulatory patients and perform consultations for more than 700 in-patients. Annually we treat more than 2400 post-surgical patients with IV PCA and 1000 patients with epidural catheters.

Minimally invasive pain medicine: In addition to our daily routine of performing invasive procedures in the OR, we have significantly increased the number of minimally invasive procedures done at the clinic. This enabled us to improve treatment without increasing the load on the OR and recovery room. In addition to the traditional procedures (e.g. trigger points injections, simple peripheral nerve blocks) we have added I.V. Lidocaine infusion, given mainly to patients with neuropathic pain. Currently we perform 3-5 Lidocaine infusions/week with extraordinarily favorable results in some of the patients. This year we expect to perform more than 1200 procedures in the clinic and at the OR.

New collaborations: Being a multidisciplinary service, we have expanded our collaboration with other services, including neurology, rehabilitation, maxillo-facial and oncology. A new concept of shared clinic with experts from these fields has developed and is currently being tested for the first time.

Education: A substantial effort is made in expanding pain education to patients, nurses, medical students and residents from the department and other in-hospital services. We are encouraged to note an increased interest in pain medicine among medical students, evidenced by the fact that seven have chosen to perform an elective clinical rotation with us.

Research: We have started recruiting patients for the CIHR-supported clinical research on marijuana in neuropathic pain study (with Dr. Ware as PI). Other pending clinical studies, such as the role of I.V. Lidocaine in patients with fibromyalgia or methadone in non-cancerous pain will start later on this year. Basic research, such as quantitative sensory testing and laser Doppler studies in neuropathic pain patients, is conducted in close collaboration with the basic scientists of the department.

- Dr. Yoram Shir
Clinical Director,
MUHC Pain Centre

Members of the MUHC Multidisciplinary Pain Centre
Montreal General Hospital, Room E19-128
(514)934-8222

Anesthesia
Dr. Yoram SHIR, Director MUHC Pain Centre
Dr. Gary BENNETT, Pain Research Director
Dr. Francisco ASENJO
Dr. Rod FINLAYSON
Dr. Michel GERMAIN

Rheumatology
Dr. Mary-Ann FITZCHARLES

Psychology
Dr. Ann GAMSAA
Dr. Caroline PUkALL
Dr. Marie-Josée RIVARD

Clinical Nurse Specialists
Ms. Krista BRECHT
Ms. Louise LAMB

Family Medicine
Dr. Mark WARE

Physiotherapy
Ms. Denise HACHÉ
Ms. Antoinette MEFFE

Administrative Support
Ms. Gail BRAITHWAITE, Medical Secretary
Ms. Quetta TEIXEIRA, Medical Secretary
This year’s Update had a number of distinct features. First and foremost was the further incorporation of most of the new Faculty appointees. If you were there at a new staff-person’s first-ever intervention as a junior resident and then 5 or 6 years later listen to them give a lecture or workshop with such poise and clarity, you can only come away with a sense of tremendous paternal pride. The course organizers made very liberal use of the newer members of the University staff (probably calling in past favours!!). The results speak for themselves. This not only increased our resource base but also alleviated the load borne by the more senior staff. We had just under 150 registrants, which is a 50% increase over the past two years!! An important consideration is that our Update is one of the very few comprehensive updates available. We must strive to maintain the high quality of the course.

The second item of note is the RT course. This year we offered two parallel courses, in English and in French for Respiratory Therapists. Here too, the new kids, and some older ones, had their first exposure. They performed admirably. We had 79 technicians for the two courses, indicating that we did, indeed, answer a crying need.

The third item deals with the financial bottom line. Two years ago we broke even and last year, I am glad to report, we were in the black!! This was due to diligent avoidance of unnecessary expenditures and good planning. I suspect that we will have a very healthy surplus this year. The extra will go towards subsidizing Residents’ attendance in the future and getting very high profile speakers.

We had financial assistance from 11 exhibitors (about twice as many as we had last year) They are: Abbott, Arrow Medical, Baxter, Bristol Myers Squibb, Glaxo SmithKline, ICN Canada, Merck Frosst, Organon, Pfizer, Trudell Medical and Tyco Medical. The contributions made helped us attract very good and interesting outside speakers. Our thanks go to these firms and their representatives, hoping that we can rely on them in the future.

A Course Director looks so cool and competent when he has outstanding people to do the legwork. Ken, Don and Tom are just so easy to work with and so reliable that running the show was as easy as pie. I cannot thank them enough. I know for a fact that they ”pinch hit ” most effectively, bailing me and the Update out of many jams.

Does anybody really know what a course coordinator does? I do and I know that they get all of the abuse and none of the credit, which is totally unfair. Kelly-Anne Glover and her elf Suzanne (I hope that I have spelt the name correctly) have performed an outstanding job for which they deserve our thanks and recognition. I hope that we will be able to provide University secretarial help with some of the preparatory work.

- Richard M Wahba.
Course Chairman
This year’s Anesthesia Update took place in the beautiful setting of the Marriott - Chateau Champlain.

Due to great demand, the Respiratory Therapists’ Course was delivered successfully in French and English.

Trudell Medical and Abbott Laboratories were some of the many sponsors who set up display & information booths.
Ms. Sandra Cardoso was granted permanency in her position as Administrative Coordinator in the McGill Anesthesia Office.

Drs Francisco Asenjo, Thomas Schricker, Franco Carli, Gerald Fried, and Ms. Krista Brecht attended the Montreal-Florence Perioperative Medicine Update as guest speakers February 28th to March 1st, 2003. To listen to the lectures or view the powerpoint presentations go to: http://www.criticalpatient.org/modules.php?name=Sections&op=view article&artid=1

Drs Rick Bondy and Pierre Fiset participated as Guest Lecturers in Organon’s Making a Mark Anesthesia Resident Review Course.

Dr. Catherine Bushnell has accepted the position of Interim Director of the new McGill Centre for Research on Pain. This year she has been making headlines, by appearing on CFCF 12 to discuss her study of “emotional touch” as well as participating in a CBC Radio interview for the program “Ideas” where she discussed multidisciplinary pain management at the MUHC. Dr. Bushnell was also featured in an interview entitled “New insight into pain control” on the front cover of the April 15th edition of the Medical Post. Featured in Newsweek (May 19th), Dr. Bushnell discusses new developments in pain control, namely the influence of psychological state, including attention and emotions. Dr. Bushnell has also been interviewed in collaboration with Dr. Yoram Shir for another CFCF 12 feature on pain. Dr. Bushnell is this year’s recipient of the prestigious American Pain Society’s Frederick Kerr Memorial Award which is presented to a pain professional whose total career achievements have made outstanding contributions to the field of pain medicine.

Ms. Sandra Cardoso was granted permanency in her position as Administrative Coordinator in the McGill Anesthesia Office.

Dr. Franco Carli has been awarded the 2003 Organon Canada Ltd Canadian Research Award in Anesthesia by the Canadian Anesthesiologists’ Society for his project entitled “Enhancing Outcomes after Colon Surgery: Role of Prehabilitation in Facilitating the Recovery Process”. He has also been awarded the 2002 MUHC-Research Institute Pilot Project Competition for his project entitled “Postoperative outcomes after abdominal surgery: health-related quality of life and exercise capacity”. In May, Dr. Carli delivered the Royal College Lecture at the University of Sherbrooke.

Drs George Carvalho (R3), Albert Moore (R4), and Antoine Rochon (R4), were the finalists at the Association des Anesthésiologistes du Québec Residents’ Competition.

Dr. Fernando Cervero has been nominated Director of the Anesthesia Research Unit, a post previously held by Dr. Catherine Bushnell.

Dr. Roshanak Charghi (R4), is the proud mother of a baby boy, Xavier.

Dr. Terence Coderre has been on the road, in the air, and over the sea in his role as Guest Lecturer at Queen’s University’s (Ontario) Department of Pharmacology and at symposiums such as the Danish Pain Research Meeting (Isle of Fynn, Denmark), the American Headache Society meeting (Seattle), and the Canadian Pain Society meeting (Toronto).
Dr. Pierre Fiset was appointed a member of the CIHR Grant Review Committee (Behavioral Studies)

Dr. Alain Deschamps is the recipient of the Association des Anesthésiologistes du Québec’s Bourse de la Fondation, as well as Canadian Anesthesiologists’ Society’s 2003 Baxter Corporation Award in Anesthesia, and an FRQSC Chercheur-boursier clinicien - junior for his study entitled "Correction of autonomic dysfunction in preeclamptic patients using epidural anesthesia; study by wavelet transforms for spectral analysis of heart rate and blood pressure variability"

Dr. Alain Deschamps with wife Rosemarie and their daughter

Dr. Pierre Fiset was appointed a member of the FRQSC comité d’évaluations des bourses chercheurs-boursier.

Drs Ann Gamsa, Yoram Shir, Mark Ware, & CNS Krista Brecht participated in interviews for CBC Radio’s program “Ideas” which will feature a week-long special on Pain in September 2003.

Our thanks to Ms. Kelly Glover for organizing another successful Anesthesia Update.

Dr. Vynka Lash (R4), has been selected as a finalist in the June 2003 Canadian Anesthesiologists’ Society Residents Competition.

Dr. Josée Lavoie has received a promotion from Assistant to Associate Professor in the McGill Department of Anesthesia.

Welcome Ms. Lenora Naimark as the new Administrative Assistant in the McGill Anesthesia office.

Dr. Andrew Nice (R2), is the proud father of a baby girl, Anika.

Dr. Antoine Rochon (R4), participated in La journée scientifique conjointe des programmes d’anesthésiologies cardiovasculaire et de chirurgie cardiaque (May 23rd) at L’Institut de Cardiologie de Montréal and received the First Prize for his presentation entitled: "Evaluation of a continuous heparin infusion on hemostatic function in cardiac surgery".

Dr. Pedro Ruiz is the recipient of the AAQ Bourse Rosario-Denis for his project entitled "Effects of lateral position on PEEPE and log mechanics during one-lung and two-lung ventilation”.

Dr. Thomas Schricker has been awarded the 2003 Dr. Werner Fekl Award by the Austrian Society of Clinical Nutrition.

Dr. Mark Ware was interviewed on CBC Radio’s program "Sounds Like Canada" discussing medical use of marijuana. Dr. Ware was also invited to lecture at Bishop’s University in March 2003 as the Provigo Speaker.

If you have any suggestions for its development we’d be glad to hear from you! (diana.diazazo@muhc.mcgill.ca)
I am Albert Koomson, a specialist registrar in anaesthesia from the
Imperial College School of Anaesthesia, London, England. I was at
the Montreal Children’s Hospital (MCH) between September 2001
and September 2002 as a clinical fellow in paediatric anaesthesia.
It was my very first time working in Canada.

My first impression of the MCH was that my immediate working
environment was quite similar to that in London, England, which
was quite reassuring. The clinical experience I gained at MCH was
tremendous and generally spanned almost all fields of anaesthesia.
I am particularly pleased about my enormous exposure to neonates
and infants requiring anaesthesia for complex surgery.

Research opportunities, which are usually a bonus for a clinical fellow
came along as well. I spent some time, under the tutelage of Dr.
Karen Brown, studying factors which might cause postoperative
respiratory complications in children with polysomnography diagnosis
of severe obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome who underwent
adenotonsillectomy.

What I found interesting was that week-in, week-out, there was either a lecture or a seminar or a research meeting on
current topical issues in anaesthesia and related disciplines organized by the McGill Anesthesia Department. The
Harold-Griffith and Wesley Bourne Memorial lectures were, in particular, very exciting events for me, not simply that
they gave me the opportunity to hear from very eminent people in my chosen profession, but because I found them to
be very big social events. The food and drinks were great and also the social interaction between faculty and interfaculty
members was unbelievably cordial.

My family and I managed to see a lot of the eastern part of Canada and of course I was blessed with a visit to the
Montreal Grand Prix Circuit. The wonderful sights and sounds of Canada that we experienced will forever remain very
fond memories for us.

Reminiscing about my time in Montreal, I now realize how much I miss it. The theatre, recovery staff and the surgeons
are very nice people to work with. I am particularly grateful to the staff of the Anaesthetic Department at MCH,
especially my supervisors, for the enormous help and support, without which my survival would have been difficult.

Thank you McGill for the rich clinical and research experience and the many fond memories about Canada.

- Dr. Albert Koomson
Anesthesia Pediatric Fellow (2001-2002)
The McGill Department of Anesthesia would like to thank the following companies whose generous donations contribute to the continuing success of our academic activities:
In 1947, Professor Wesley Bourne, Col. Bourne’s father, established the first Canadian Department of Anesthesia at McGill University. On January 1st, 1990 Col. Bourne established the Wesley Bourne Chair of Anesthesia whose endowment was donated by the SALTA Benevolent Fund. This fund was founded by Mr. A. Sidney Dawes, Col. Bourne’s father-in-law, and was managed by Col. Bourne and his family.

Col. Bourne was born in Montreal, and educated at Selwyn House School and Westmount High School. As a student at McGill he was commissioned in 1937 as 2nd Lieutenant in the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada. He had a most distinguished military career. At the onset of World War II, he served with the Black Watch in England. In search of front-line action, he volunteered in 1942 for the 2nd Canadian Parachute Unit, which became the Canadian component of the joint American/Canadian unit – “The First Special Service Force” known today as the Green Berets. He saw action on the Aleutian Islands, in Italy at Cassino, Anzio Beachhead, and the capture of Rome. This was followed by further active duty in southern France. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel at the age of 25, thus becoming one of the youngest officers of this rank in the allied forces. After the war he continued his military service with the Black Watch, rising to the rank of Colonel of the regiment.

He was actively involved in many charitable organizations including the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award in Canada, thus helping 15,000 young Quebecers further their development toward becoming productive and self-assured citizens. He was Chairman of his old school Selwyn House and was responsible for the development of its Junior Matriculation Programme and moved the school from Redpath Avenue to its present site in Westmount. He served on the Board of Directors of several schools for the handicapped. In 1985 he was appointed a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order - the award was presented to him personally by Queen Elizabeth II.

In his business life he joined the Atlas Construction Company in 1945 and became its President in 1968. The company was noted for its construction of tunnels and roads, including the Louis H. Lafontaine Tunnel and the Churchill Falls project. He served terms as President of the Montreal Construction Association and the Quebec Road Builders Association. He was a Director of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank.

Col. Bourne had a very close and loving family. He is survived by his wife Joan (Dawes). They were married in 1942 in Helena, Montana, while he was training with the First Special Service Force. He is also survived by his two children, Thomas (Victoria), and Elspeth (Henry Straker) - five grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He had 3 siblings the late Douglas (Maria) Bourne, sister Barbara (Z.H. Krupski) and Robert (Janet) Bourne.

- Dr. Robert Bourne
In Memoriam

Dr. Nassif Mechaalani
1975 - 2003

Dr. Nassif Mechaalani, a child of civil war, was born on January 4th 1975, in Zahle, Lebanon and grew up in a loving family with his parents Sami and Leila, brother Danny and sister Pamela. As a teenager, he was able to spend some time in France, before he joined his parents, who had decided to emigrate to Canada.

He finished high-school in Toronto and completed a B.Sc.(Biochemistry) at the University of Ottawa where he also pursued his studies in Medicine. He started his residency training in Obstetrics & Gynecology at McGill University but soon discovered he wanted to become an anesthetist. While in residency, he met Evana and the happy couple was soon married in June 2001.

Nassif was a bright and beautiful mind, who knew how to discuss the great ideas of our world. He also kept in his heart a true dedication to his wife, his family and his family-in-law. He embraced his beliefs whether religious, cultural or philosophical. As a dear colleague and a dear friend we remember Nassif, who through his dedication and generosity, was always willing to spend some extra time with friends and colleagues, help and educate his patients, and achieve the highest standard of professionalism. He was reliable and honest, making him an asset in any relationship, whether personal or professional. The past 3 years of residency we were fortunate to have Nassif as an unforgettable friend. He had many accomplishments, but his biggest was filling a space in each of our hearts.

We will remember his laughter once shared by all, which brought to us a certain ‘joie de vivre’. He was funny, easy-going and down to earth, making every moment spent with him a pleasant one.

We mourn the loss of a true friend, a colleague, a mentor... (January 7th 2003)

- Dr. Eugene Delabays, R4

Pierre Limoges, MD, FRCPC
1945 - 2003

Pierre Limoges passed away on March 24th of this year, at the age of 58. Dr Limoges was an icon of Canadian pediatric anesthesia. He was a man faithful to his origins: he was born and raised in Ville St-Laurent and was still living there until his passing; he became a pediatric anesthesiologist in 1978 and has been working at Hôpital Sainte-Justine ever since. Dr Limoges was a great man, both in size and in accomplishments. He could easily fit a premature baby in his bear paw but practiced his art with incredible gentleness. He always remained humble, humane and approachable. Those who had the privilege of working with him appreciated him unanimously and will never forget him. He taught pediatric anesthesia at all levels and always in his way: straightforward, no nonsense, mindful of his audience and above all of his patients. He had a way of looking intently at a person and patiently awaiting answers, confidences. Amongst his many accomplishments, let me cite the following: President of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society, President of the Pediatric Anesthesia Section of the CAS, President of the Oral Examination Board of the Royal College of Physicians (Anesthesia), Member of the National Blood Safety Council. Dr Limoges will be honoured and remembered at this year's CAS meeting in Ottawa in the presence of his family. The pediatric refresher course will now bear his name. Dr Limoges is survived by his loving wife Pauline and four children: Patrick, Judith, Sarah and Sophie. Patrick is perpetuating the tradition of anesthesia in the family.

Je me souviens...

- Dr. Josée Lavoie
In Memoriam

Dr. Harold (Tony) Davenport, FRCPC, FFARCS

A Tribute to Dr. Harold T. DAVENPORT

Tony Davenport worked for some twelve years in Montreal, first with 'Bob' Ferguson in the Montreal General Hospital and then as Chief of Anaesthesia at the Montreal Children's Hospital until 1966, when he moved to Vancouver as Chief of Anaesthesia at the Vancouver Children's Hospital. He died after a long illness on the 15th of April, 2003 at the age of 82.

In the MCH he ran a splendid and efficient department, making many advances in the practice of anaesthesia in children, and a most valuable and on-going contribution to the teaching program of McGill. His department became universally recognized and attracted post-graduates from all over the world. He had a mind full of curiosity and he raised more really important questions in medicine than he could possibly have found time to investigate, so that he sought and worked with many collaborators from other specialties in the McGill teaching hospitals and of course with myself at the Wellcome Research Department. His bibliography makes interesting reading and extends from work on the psychological effects of hospitalisation and operation on children, to day-case surgery and anaesthesia in the elderly and to basic scientific questions relevant to anaesthesia and pain control. His many books and journal publications are of real relevance to practice today. He did not stop work in official retirement even during ill-health, such was his dedication to his profession.

He returned to London in 1973 and I had the good fortune to live within a few miles of him so that our friendship became closer over the years. He was a most caring doctor and in all his professional life he pursued excellence. I was privileged to be his friend for nearly fifty years.

Dr. Harold Griffith, Chairman of the Department of Anesthesia, McGill University, in Montreal. I was lucky to have been associated with Dr. Davenport for ten years when he was Director of Anesthesia at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Dr. Davenport had just been appointed Director of Anesthesia at the Children’s and I was one of his first residents. At the time, there were only three operating rooms and only relatively minor operations were performed. However, preparations were underway for a move to a larger facility, and a new cardiac surgeon would soon be performing more complicated major cardiovascular procedures.

The Department grew from three OR’s and a plaster room to nine OR’s and two induction rooms. There was brand-new anaesthetic equipment. Post-operative patients could now be sent to a big recovery room instead of back to their hospital rooms.

Dr. A.W. McDonald was Assistant Director. Staff was being recruited, and fortunately I was offered a job as a Clinical Fellow. This was the beginning of my many years of work with Dr. Davenport.

Dr. Davenport was interested in clinical investigation, and the efficacy of premedication was studied. A review of tracheal intubation of infants and children was done. Anesthetic equipment was revised. He developed an infant set with the help of one of the residents. It was also the time when non-flammable and non-explosive agents started to replace ether and cyclopropane.

Surgical procedures were also progressing, most especially cardiovascular operations. Open heart surgery started, in addition to the many other complex operations for congenital heart disease.

Certainly, Dr. Davenport took an active part in these rapid changes during his ten years as Director of the Department. It is most difficult to completely describe all he did during his tenure. I am sure many of his former students and colleagues will attest to his great contribution to the Department and to the many children who were helped during that time.

Professor Sir Gordon Robson, CBE, FRCPC
1st McGill Anesthesia Research Chair (1956-1964)

-Dr. José K. Rosales,
Professor Post -Retirement
MCH Chief Anesthetist (1966-1983)
Chapter. Xii: Views from the Montreal Children's Hospital

I. Tony Davenport (McGill 1951-1966)

A year after having worked with Cecil Gray in Liverpool, I wrote my first major paper during an extra post-graduate year which I spent as a resident anaesthetist in Hartford and New Haven, Connecticut in 1950. Our work had concerned the use of curare for Caesarean section before it was widely used in anaesthesia. In 1951, I came to Montreal with the intention of staying for six weeks before returning to England. This was made possible by Drs Griffith and Tovell, who had an exchange rotation arrangement for their trainees for a number of years.

I immediately sensed the excitement and friendliness of anaesthesia at McGill and changed my plans, being fortunate enough to become a junior staff member of the Montreal General Hospital. Five years later, I was asked to become head of the department of the old Children's Memorial Hospital on Mount Royal. This was an opportunity which would have been unimaginable in Europe at my age. Becoming a successor to Drs Leigh, Stephen and Slater, three of the leading paediatric anaesthetists at that time, was a daunting challenge.

I had envisaged that my duties would involve a lot of tonsillectomies and squint corrections but this idea was immediately dispelled. Open heart surgery began as I joined the team of Drs Murphy, Karn and Dobell. The general surgeons Drs Beardmore, Owen and Shagovitch tackled every type of anomaly from all over Eastern Canada. Plastic surgery and ENT work was headed by Drs Woolhouse and McHugh, respectively. They tackled many cleft-lip and palate lesions, thalidomide stigmata and airway problems, particularly epiglottitis and foreign bodies, especially the pernicious peanut. Dr. Blundell also began neurosurgery at this time.

All this work demanded service of a high order and the cooperation of a team of associates from the McGill Anaesthesia Diploma Course graduates. To provide a safe service and encourage and protect our trainees, these staff members had to agree to sleep in the hospital in rotation. Due to the limited third party cover for children's anaesthesia, salaries had to be provided from a stipend of five dollars per anaesthetic as provided by the hospital administration. The hospital also paid the residents' salaries at the standard rate.

McGill students were rotated at a rate of four to eight per six months and we tried to inculcate them with all things to do with paediatrics, as well as anaesthesia, at the Montreal Children's Hospital. Teaching by experience was complemented by the McGill Anaesthesia Course Lectures and the combined city-wide staff discussions at the Ciba building each Monday evening.

We made films for teaching purposes, including one specifically for the Toronto World Congress in 1960. Before that meeting, those en route to it were guests at a whole day presentation by the McGill department which created many long-standing friendships. A short, silent film of the first three chairmen of the Department was also made and this began an archive of McGill Anaesthesia. By collecting notes of what some of our best residents had learnt at the Children's Hospital, I compiled and published a "cook book" of paediatric anaesthesia. Remarkably, the first three North American books on this subject originated from the Montreal Children’s Hospital and became standard texts for many years.

Our clinical research was boosted when clinical fellows were employed, and Gordon Robson began weekly visits to assess the progress of projects. Our major innovative studies included electroencephalography during open heart surgery, operative blood loss analysis, psychic trauma control and prolonged nasotracheal intubation therapy. Among those co-operating in this work were Dr. Arfel from France, Dr. Barr from Scotland, Dr. Werry from New Zealand and Dr. Berkovitz from Holland. Other subjects tackled were infant caudal block, the introduction of halothane, methoxyflurane, droperidol and fentanyl, white sound and anti-analgesia, administration of succinylcholine by various routes and different anaesthetic circuit assessments. Our subsequent adaption of the Ayre-Rees infant set for simpler use was marketed as the "Montreal set."

One lasting memory of our research at this time is of the statistics which had to be calculated on a crude, noisy, mechanical calculator. Most gratifying, though, was the unstinted co-operation of associates in other specialties. Misses Taylor and Burt formed the nursing team of the theatre/recovery suite and they, together with Mr. Baker, the inhalation technician, were invaluable allies in all ways.

Sadly, one of our patients died of hyperpyrexia. We subsequently made a study of this, which was a new syndrome at the time, and initiated the first meeting to discuss the condition. This was held in Toronto and, despite forewarnings, I found that the anaesthesia departments in the major children’s hospitals in Winnipeg and Toronto were friendly and co-operative.

We first practised day-care in dentistry at the Montreal Children’s Hospital in 1956. This was initiated by necessity, as there were not enough in-patient beds, and it went unreported. The subspecialty of paediatric anaesthesia was espoused by some but we did not encourage this as it led to a false mystique. Nevertheless, we strongly supported the foundation of the Anaesthetic Section of the Academy of Paediatrics, with the aim of spreading the best practice as widely as possible.

In 1966 I moved to Vancouver, where I hoped to spearhead paediatric anaesthesia. Unfortunately, I found that the McGill spirit did not prevail there and so returned to England. I proudly retain my Canadian citizenship to this day as a reminder of the happy and productive time I spent in Montreal.
Letters we received...

Appeal for John Westwood Sandison Research Fund in Nepal

I met Prof John Sandison in December 1985 at Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital when he arrived in Kathmandu to take over the teaching assignment in postgraduate course (Diploma in Anesthetics) in Anesthesia from Dr Tom McCaughey. John immediately took charge of his duties and impressed us with his total involvement with his teaching methodology. To give an example: he would run the didactic portion of the teaching like clockwork; he made sure that the trainees were never held back to fulfill the clinical duties at the cost of scheduled didactic lecture series. It simply was not acceptable to him. To look at the progress of trainees he made frequent visits to various hospitals in the valley to make sure the caseloads were appropriate and trainees were taught the correct methods of patient management. One day a week, he worked as a clinical attending at the hospital with a trainee as his student. He was remarkable in teaching his trainees. We learned more by his “way of doing things” rather than what he said we “ought to do”. I still remember his OR gown with plastic towel clips, esophageal stethoscope with earpiece in his ears, scissors in his pocket and his totally animated way in making a point during his O.R time. He was a superb teacher who not only gave us theoretical background but showed us the ways to apply it on a day-to-day basis. He was not afraid to tell the surgeons “off” if they were inappropriately obtrusive in anesthetic management of the patients.

John was a uniquely original person, which was apparent in everything he did. For example, to assure his mobility around the city, he customized a scooter with the help of a local mechanic and he was off on this little scooter all over the city. To top it off, he made a trip to Pokhara, a city 200km west of Kathmandu, on this scooter! John’s determination subdued even the treacherous mountain road conditions, traffic and limited help along the road. He made it back and forth, a total of 400km in this scooter!

In April 1986, John helped organize a one-day symposium in anesthesia, the first ever in Nepal. This event was very well received both by anesthesia and surgical specialties of the day and gave impetus to establish the Society of Anesthesiologists of Nepal (SAN).

John’s many contributions towards the development of anesthesiology in Nepal are innumerable. Many of his Nepali students remain in their native country. A few have emigrated to U.K, Australia, South Africa and the United States of America, and all of them have done excellently in their profession.

To remember John’s indomitable spirit, which always gave more than he ever asked in return, his Nepali students have come together to establish a “John Sandison Research Fund” within the Society of Anesthesiologists of Nepal. This fund’s primary purpose would be to enhance academic activities of the Society.

We were hoping to raise U.S $5000.00 as “seed money”; so far we have reached but half of our goal. John’s time spent in Nepal was not wasted and he will be remembered through the work of his students and their love for their teacher. I, along with many Nepali anesthesiologists, appeal to McGill’s Alumni to help us reach our goal and set up this research fund in Nepal.

Thank you very much.

Gaury S Adhikary, MD, FRCA
Department of Anesthesiology
University of Michigan
1500 E Medical CTR Dr
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Adhikary@umich.edu
734 9364280
Dear Dr. Carli,

Once again, I would like to thank you for inviting me to the annual Griffith lecture and dinner, which continues to be a great tradition. It was good to see you and your McGill colleagues again, and it was, as always, an important event for my family.

Sincerely,
Jim Clark

---

Dear Dr. Carli,

Dr. Carli, Sandra, Donna, Diana,

It is with much gratitude that I take pen in hand to express my appreciation for the wonderful basket of goodies you sent while I was recovering from knee surgery. I am happy to report that with passing of time and intensive therapy I am doing well and will come back to visit again.

Barbara Brock

---

Dr. Carli, Sandra, Donna, Diana,

I do thank you so very much for inviting me to attend the lecture and dinner last Wednesday evening. It was a pleasure to hear and meet Dr. Orser, even if I was unable to understand it all. She is a remarkable young woman. The dinner was most enjoyable. I enjoyed your company along with Sally, who was her usual charming self.

I do hope you will find time to drive over to Lac des Iles one day and see our lake — We would be happy to show you around.

Very sincerely,
Barbara Griffith Clark

---

Dear Sandra,

Thanks for our best Brock Day yet!

Gordon Brock

---

Dear Dr. Carli,

Once again, David and I must thank you for the wonderful evening of April 23rd. It was a real pleasure to see you all again, and to make the acquaintance of Dr. Orser, a very charming woman and an impressive scientist. I know that my father would be very proud of his beloved McGill department.

The dinner was, as always, so delicious — a real treat. A special thank you for welcoming Torontonians who are trying to get used to feeling like social outcasts! (our health is still good!)

Very sincerely,
Barbara Brock

---

Dear Dr. Carli,

I do thank you so very much for inviting me to attend the lecture and dinner last Wednesday evening. It was a pleasure to hear and meet Dr. Orser, even if I was unable to understand it all. She is a remarkable young woman.

The dinner was most enjoyable. I enjoyed your company along with Sally, who was her usual charming self.

I do hope you will find time to drive over to Lac des Iles one day and see our lake — We would be happy to show you around.

Sincerely,
Betty Jennings

---

Dear Dr. Carli,

I wanted to thank you and the department for hosting a very enjoyable and informative visit. I am impressed by the breadth and high quality of research underway in the department. I was also impressed by your bright residents that seem to be enjoying their training programs.

Once again, thank you. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting in June.

Beverly A. Orser, MD, PhD, FRCPS
Career Scientist Ontario Ministry of Health
Professor of Physiology and Anesthesia
University of Toronto
We hope you enjoyed the latest edition of **NEWSLINE**!

We would love to hear from you! Did you know that Newsline has a world-wide readership numbering over 500? This is your newsletter. Let our readers know what you are up to. We welcome information and news on the following:

- Kudos (your achievements and activities)
- News from around your division, site, department
- Articles on various topics of interest
- Upcoming events
- Letters to the Editor

The deadline for submissions to appear in **NEWSLINE** Winter 2003 is **October 15th, 2003**.

Send correspondence, submissions and inquiries to:
McGill University, Department of Anesthesia, c/o Diana Di Zazzo, Royal Victoria Hospital, F9-12, 687 Pine Avenue West, Montreal (Quebec) H3A 1A1, Tel: (514)934-1934, 36423, FAX: (514)843-1488
Email: diana.dizazzo@muhc.mcgill.ca


Editor: Dr. Franco Carli
Design and Layout: Ms. Diana Di Zazzo
Proofread by: Ms. Lenora Naimark

Harold Griffith Photos by: Harold H. Perlman, St-Hubert (Qc) (450)443-3831
Other Photos courtesy of: Dr. Robert Bourne (Col. John Bourne), Dr. Catherine Bushnell (Pain Day), Dr. Franco Carli (Sandison Day & Tony Davenport), Dr. Michael English (Bromage Day), Ms. Kelly Glover (McGill Anesthesia Update), MCH Anesthesia (Pierre Limoges), Allen McInnis (Catherine Bushnell: Medical Post), Dr. Ted Hunter (Albert Koomson), McGill Anesthesia (Nassif Mechalaani, Sandra Cardoso, R5 Residents), Dr. Thomas Schricker (Dr. Deschamps & Family)

Cartoons printed with permission by *Stitches Journal of Medical Humor*

**NEWSLINE** is also available on-line at [http://ww2.mcgill.ca/anesthesia/newsletters.htm](http://ww2.mcgill.ca/anesthesia/newsletters.htm)

The printing of the Summer 2003 edition was generously sponsored by: