

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

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*Annual Report prepared by Gayle A. Shinder, PhD, Program Coordinator,
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Foreword by the Chair

The Department of Oncology had many achievements in 2014 as well as some challenges. Early in the year, we had the opportunity to implement our newly created Evaluation Metrics for the academic evaluations. They proved to be an invaluable tool for objectively assessing the teaching/training, research and administrative activities of our faculty members. Moreover, most members who were to be assessed by our Department responded to the call to submit their self-evaluation documents. The evaluation process allowed us to assess our Metrics and Academic Activities documents and subsequently make further adjustments and improvements.

One of my commitments, which followed from the results of the 2012 cyclical review, was to improve our faculty members' feeling of connection to the Department even though their day-to-day-work is conducted at a hospital or elsewhere on campus. To this end, I held Town Hall meetings at the McGill University Health Centre, Jewish General Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital Center and The Goodman Cancer Centre to highlight the history, structure, accomplishments and future goals of the Department as well as to address any questions and concerns.

One of the critical changes in the Department was the transition in October of administrative duties to the Faculty of Medicine's Administration Excellence Centre (AEC). The newly implemented AEC7 now manages the human resources and finances of the Departments of Oncology, Pathology and Diagnostic Radiology, with Oncology being the largest of the three. As a result, our Administrative Officer, Waheeda Esmail, took up a position at another AEC and our Financial Officer, Winie Celestin, moved over to the AEC7. With the loss of two members of the Chair's office, there was a re-assignment of other duties with the Program Coordinator (Dr. Gayle Shinder) taking over the management of the Department of Oncology website, and the Chair's secretary (Naomi Scobie) taking over the coordination of the Visiting Speakers Program in Oncology.

The Rossy Cancer Network (RCN) continues to evolve. As departmental chair, I have a seat at the RCN Executive Committee, the body that provides technical direction and makes decisions concerning the distribution of financial resources to improve the quality of cancer care and patient experience at McGill's hospitals. In 2014, we began to provide grants-in-aid of research and for personnel development, which will have a positive impact on the training of our junior faculty. These awards are described in the report.

The year also saw changes to the Gerald Bronfman Centre. In the latter half of the year, the offices of the cancer epidemiology students and trainees were moved from the basement to the more environmentally hospitable first and second floors, and the Division of Whole Person Care vacated the third floor to move to newly renovated offices in the Strathcona Building on campus. The very large first floor office near the front door has now been converted to a very welcoming reception area where visitors can comfortably sit and peruse bound copies of recent and past Department Annual Reports and other Department and McGill-related reading material. A large portrait of our benefactor, Gerald Bronfman, hangs on the back wall as do portrait photographs of past Department Chairs (Drs. Brian Leyland-Jones, Henry Shibata and Gerald Batist).

Also in 2014, following instructions from the Dean, Dr Eidelman, I commissioned a full review of academic performance for the Division of Radiation Oncology with guidance from the Cyclical Review Unit in the Provost's Office and close consultation with The MUHC oncology leadership. The site review team made several recommendations, which are currently being implemented.

The Division of Palliative Care hosted the very successful 20th Palliative Care Congress in Montreal. In addition, I continued my duties as Editor-in-Chief of Preventive Medicine (PM) and also helped launch its open access sister journal, Preventive Medicine Reports (PMR) for which I am Co-Editor together with Dr. Zeev Rosberger. In 2014, PM had 1219 new submissions and PMR (since May) had 109 submissions.

The Clinical Research Program (CRP) ended the 2013/2014 fiscal year (April 30, 2014) \$267,000 in the black. This was the fourth year with a positive balance and the debt owing the Faculty of Medicine is almost paid off. Despite some staff leaving early in the year and a lag time in hiring replacements, as the year progressed, the number of trials and recruitment increased. Notwithstanding a concerted effort by me with the strong support of our clinicians to maintain the Department's CRP program as the central coordinating body for oncology clinical trials across the McGill hospital sites, by early 2015 we learned that the CRP will be phased out. The Provincial government has mandated that research ethics board approval must take place within a hospital setting not at the University. As a result, trials that are currently ongoing will now continue to be coordinated through the CRP while any new trials will be shifted over to the hospitals.

Once again, we hosted a successful (our fourth) Gerald Bronfman Symposium and Awards Ceremony. As in previous events, we brought together departmental members and colleagues from across the university and elsewhere to discuss cutting-edge cancer science and to recognize our champions. In 2015, we will host our fifth such event, which will coincide with the department's 25th anniversary.

On a sad note, we lost an important member of our Department with the death of Dr. Paul Ahlgren on May 6, 2014. Dr. Ahlgren was a medical oncologist who specialized in breast cancer at St. Mary's Hospital Center. We were also saddened by the passing of Rosalind Goodman. Mrs. Goodman, together with her husband Morris, had been fiercely dedicated to the fight against cancer through their financial and hands-on support of the Rosalind and Morris Goodman Cancer Research Centre. Mrs. Goodman lost her own battle with cancer on August 11, 2014.

One of the big challenges faced by the Department is the continued budgetary constraints. We have adjusted to today's fiscal realities by making appropriate budget cuts and have plans to implement a new strategy to raise much needed funds for the activities of the Department.

In 2014 our faculty members faced some very challenging times. Reduced budgets at the university and department level meant there was less money to support academic activities. Reduced research funding by granting agencies meant that research grants were even more competitive and sometimes funding amounts per grant were less than expected. For those working in the hospitals, budget cuts, re-structuring and in some cases, the preparation for a big move, added to the workload and the stress. Despite these major challenges, I am proud to say that our faculty members have risen to the occasion and have done some phenomenal work in the realm of teaching, research and clinical practice. On the subsequent pages we report just a small fraction of the many accomplishments of our large Department which has over 200 faculty members.

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Chair, Department of Oncology

Summary of Department Activities

1. Research and Publications

The research activities in the Department are multi-disciplinary and include basic and translational research in cancer, clinical research, cancer prevention, cancer genetics, cancer epidemiology and population health, psychosocial oncology, palliative care and medical physics. In 2014, our members published in top journals in the field such as: *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*; *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics*; *Journal of Clinical Oncology*; *Molecular and Cellular Biology*; and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. For example, **Dr. Josie Ursini-Siegel** is senior author on the manuscript, *p66ShcA promotes breast cancer plasticity by promoting an epithelial to mesenchymal transition* which was published in *Molecular and Cellular Biology*, 34: 3689-701. This article was selected for a press release from the American Society of Microbiology

Several members of the Department have also published in top tier journals. Some examples include the following:

- i. **Dr. William Foulkes** and colleagues published the review *DICER1: Mutations, MicroRNAs and Mechanisms*, in *Nature Reviews Cancer* (14: 662-672), a journal with a 2013 impact factor of 37.912.
- ii. **Dr. Alain Nepveu** and a colleague published in the same issue of *Nature Reviews Cancer* (14:673-682) the invited review, *CUX1, a Haploinsufficient Tumour Suppressor Gene Overexpressed in Advanced Cancers*.

The publisher decided to use those two articles as the theme for its cover page of that issue. An explanation of the cover art work reads as follows: “Dice it up’ by Lara Crow, inspired by the Reviews on p662 and p673 that discuss roles of DICER1 and CUT-like homeobox 1, respectively, in cancer.”



- iii. **Dr. Foulkes** published the letter, *Made-to-measure Medicine: BRCA and Gynaecological Cancer* in *Lancet Oncology* (15(8):783-785), a journal with a 2013 impact factor of 24.725.
- iv. **Dr. Foulkes** is also an author on the *New England Journal of Medicine* (2013 impact factor 54.420) paper *Breast-cancer risk in families with mutations in PALB2* (371:497-506).
- v. **Dr. Foulkes** is last author on the *Nature Genetics* (2013 impact factor 29.648) paper, *Germline and somatic SMARCA4 mutations characterize small cell carcinoma of the ovary, hypercalcemic type* (46(5):438-443).
- vi. **Dr. Eduardo Franco** and his student published *Embracing a new era in cervical cancer screening*, in *The Lancet* (383(9916):493-494), a journal with a 2013 impact factor of 39.207.

- vii. **Dr. Wilson Miller** is a co-author on the paper *The sonic hedgehog factor Gli1 imparts drug resistance through inducible glucuronidation* published in *Nature* (511(7507):90-93), a journal whose 2013 impact factor is 42.351.
- viii. **Dr. Michael Pollak** published the paper, *Overcoming Drug Development Bottlenecks with Repurposing: Repurposing biguanides to target energy metabolism for cancer treatment*, in *Nature Medicine*, whose 2013 impact factor is 28.054 (20:591-593). He is also co-author on another *Nature Medicine* paper entitled *Elevated circulating branched chain amino acids are an early event in pancreatic adenocarcinoma development* (20: 1193-1198).

With respect to grant-funding, our faculty members have received funds from Quebec, Canadian and US granting agencies and foundations. In addition, many of our clinicians receive funding from the pharmaceutical industry for specific clinical trials. Of particular note, **Dr. Gerald Batist** (as PI) and Quebec colleagues including **Dr. Thierry Alcindor** from our Department, received funding in the amount of \$18.4 M over four years (2014/02 – 2018/01) for their project *Réseau en soins de santé personnalisés – Q-CROC*. The funds come from the Fonds de partenariat pour un Québec innovant et en santé (FPQIS) and private partners (pharmaceutical industry and SMEs-matching funds).

Our members routinely present their work at local, national and international conferences, some as invited speakers and others as proffered papers. Of note, **Dr. Philip Branton** was invited to give a plenary talk at the IARC Meeting on Emerging Oncogenic Viruses in Madurna Italy, June 4-8. The title of his talk was *A new role for the human Ad5 E4orf6/E1B55K E3 ubiquitin ligase complex and implications for human cancer*. He was also invited to give a plenary talk at the DNA Tumor Virus Meeting in Madison WI July 21-26. The title of that talk was *The human adenovirus type 5 E4orf4 protein targets two phosphatase regulators of the Hippo signaling pathway in inducing tumor cell-specific death*.

2. Clinical Research and Clinical Innovation

Clinical research and clinical innovation are very important aspects of the work done by the Department's clinicians. They have played an instrumental role in the development and testing of many new and innovative cancer treatment therapies.

- i. **Dr. Petr Kavan** is a co-author on the *New England Journal of Medicine* paper *Bevacizumab plus radiotherapy-temozolomide for newly diagnosed glioblastoma*. (370:709-722)
- ii. **Dr. Thierry Alcindor** is an author on the multi-author paper *Doxorubicin alone versus intensified doxorubicin plus ifosfamide for first line treatment of advanced or metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma: a randomized controlled phase 3 trial*, that was published in *Lancet Oncology* (15(4): 415-423). This was a National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group (NCIC CTG) clinical trial which was managed at McGill by the Department's Clinical Research Program. Dr. Alcindor was mentioned in a short article about this paper written in the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute's (CCSRI) 2014 report.
- iii. **Dr. Wilson Miller** is a co-author on the *Lancet Oncology* paper entitled *Vemurafenib in BRAFV600mutant metastatic melanoma: an open-label, multicentre safety study of 3222 patients* (15(4):436-444)
- iv. **Dr. Victor Cohen** is a co-author on the paper *Dacomitinib compared with placebo in pretreated patients with advanced or metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer (NCIC CTG BR.26): a double-blind, randomised, phase 3 trial*, which was also published in *Lancet Oncology* (15(12) 1379–1388).
- v. **Dr. George Shenouda** is a co-author on the paper *Final results of local-regional control and late toxicity of RTOG 9003: a randomized trial of altered fractionation radiation for*

locally advanced head and neck cancer published in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics (89(1):13-20).

- vi. **Dr. Nathaniel Bouganim** is second author on the *paper A phase II, multicentre trial evaluating the efficacy of de-escalated bisphosphonate therapy in metastatic breast cancer patients at low-risk of skeletal-related events* which was published in Breast Cancer Research and Treatment (144(3):615-624).
- vii. In the Department's Division of Radiation Oncology, **Dr. Luis Souhami** and colleagues at the MUHC have published several papers dealing with bladder cancer preservation, with emphasis in the elderly population. As a result of this work, they have become the team to go to for this approach.
- viii. **Dr. George Shenouda** is Co-Chair of the NRG/Head and Neck Protocol 3501: *A phase II randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled study of lapatinib with chemo radiation for non-HPV locally advanced head and neck cancer*. He is the Radiation Oncology Chair of the study who is responsible for writing the protocol and review as well as the Quality Assurance of radiotherapy plans of all patients on study. It is noteworthy to mention that McGill University has been chosen as the only Canadian center invited to participate in this study because of our excellent track record with previous RTOG protocols.
- ix. The MSSS (Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux) and the Direction de Cancerologie Québécoise formally recognized Q-CROC, a Quebec-wide translational research network, co-founded by **Dr. Gerald Batist**.
- x. **Dr. Walter Gotlieb** is a leader in Canada and recognized amongst the strongest groups in the world regarding the introduction and evaluation of robotic surgery in gynecologic cancers.
- xi. **Dr. Michael Hier** played an instrumental role in launching the Head and Neck Surgery Robotics Program.

3. Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jamil Asselah, a medical oncologist who is the Director of Oncology Undergraduate Medical Education, has been working with his colleagues in medical oncology (**Drs. Nathaniel Bouganim** and **François Patenaude**) and radiation oncology (**Drs. Joanne Alfieri, Tarek Hijal, and Valerie Panet-Raymond**) to finalize the content of the oncology-related portion of the third year clerkship to be rolled out in 2015 (two academic half-days and six half-days of outpatient rotations). While the reviews for the second year oncology rotation in the old curriculum were not very good, it is hoped that under the new curriculum with oncology clinic exposure happening in the third year when students are more advanced, the oncology curriculum will be better received by both students and clinicians.

Dr. Gayle Shinder has continued to provide Department of Oncology representation at the UGME New Curriculum Implementation Advisory Committee, which meets four times/year. She also represents the Department on the subcommittee tasked with developing and implementing UGME's Research Fundamentals I and II and grading assignments. Research Fundamentals I debuted in fall 2013 and continued to June 2014 while Research Fundamentals II debuted in fall 2014 and continued to December 2014. Members and Associate Members of the Department who served as research mentors for Research Fundamentals I were the following: **Drs. Bassam Abdulkarim, Paul Allison, Robin Cohen, Jocelyne Feine, Lucy Gilbert, Phil Gold, Melissa Henry, Koren Mann, Belinda Nicolau, Patricia Tonin, Antonio Vignano and Anthony Zeitouni**. Those who served as research supervisors for Research Fundamentals II were **Drs. Bassam Abdulkarim, Miguel Burnier, Tarek Hijal, Thomas Jagoe and Anthony Zeitouni**. In addition, **Dr. Nathalie Johnson** supervised a medical student for the Summer Research Bursary Program.

The Medical Oncology Residency Training Program, directed by **Dr. Scott Owen**, had a 100% success rate on the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) Medical Oncology exam. Furthermore, at the level of the RCPSC, Medical Oncology was selected as one of two disciplines to "pioneer" the introduction of the "Competency By Design" (CBD) paradigm of medical education. Its high degree of cohesion and leadership on this initiative were cited as reasons for its selection as one of the pilots. The "Clinical Fellows" program in Medical Oncology was successfully implemented with four trainees currently enrolled.

The post graduate training program in Radiation Oncology, directed by **Dr. Khalil Sultanem**, with **Dr. Tarek Hijal** as Assistant Director, covers training in all aspects of radiation oncology including medical physics, radiation biology, basic and clinical research and clinical oncology. In 2014 there were 16 Residents including 10 international medical graduates. One of the Residents in the program came in third in the *Resident Poster Viewing Recognition Award* at the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) conference. The Fellowship Program, co-directed by **Drs. Thierry Muanza** and **Fabio Cury**, offers fellowship positions in pediatric, sarcoma, stereotactic, lung cancer, genito-urinary, brachytherapy and neuro-oncology. The program currently has two fellows, one from Quebec (pediatric) and one from Brazil (genito-urinary).

Dr. Ari Meguerditchian stepped down from his role as Director of the Surgical Oncology Residency Training Program in order to focus on other administrative duties. **Dr. Roger Tabah** stepped in temporarily until **Dr. Jean-François Boileau** was appointed to the position.

The CME Program, Oncology for Practicing Physicians which was developed by **Dr. Jaroslav Prchal** and members of the Dept. of Oncology and the Rossy Cancer Network, is now up and running. The course "meets the accreditation criteria of The College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been accredited by the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) office, McGill University for up to 44 Mainpro-M1 credits (including optional activities)." <http://www.mcgill.ca/familymed/channels/news/oncology-practicing-physicians-online-course-237556>; <http://www.mycppe.ca/onco/index.html>

Several of our faculty members are currently Osler Fellows: Class of 2015 Cohort – **Dr. Walter Gotlieb** (Gynecologic Oncology); Class of 2016 Cohort: **Dr. Sender Liberman** (Surgical Oncology); Class of 2017 Cohort: **Dr. Thomas Hutchinson** (Palliative Care); **Dr. Susan Solymoss** (Medical Oncology); **Dr. Tsafirir Vanounou** (Surgical Oncology). The 2014 cohort included **Drs. Sharon Abish and José Montes** (Pediatric Oncology) and **Dr. Markus Martin** (Surgical Oncology).

Dr. Eduardo Franco is the coordinator of the Multidisciplinary Oncology Education for Residents (MORE) series of lectures. The speakers for 2014 included in order of appearance, **Drs. Marie Vanhuysse, Sergio Faria, Jamil Asselah, Tarek Hijal, Raghu Rajan, Luis Souhami, Zeev Rosberger, Sylvain Néron, Luke McCaffrey, Christine Lambert, Mark Basik, Jean-François Boileau, Victor Cohen, Scott Owen, Neil Kopek, Suzie Lau, Té Vuong, Laurent Azoulay, Thierry Alcindor and Carolyn Freeman.**

4. RUIS McGill

In 2014 RUIS McGill asked the Department of Oncology to update their list of clinical activities of the McGill Network for Cancer Care as the version they had on file was from 2004. Our Program Coordinator, **Dr. Gayle Shinder**, solicited feedback from the various oncology clinical

groups represented in the table and was able to update and improve the content. She then adapted this information for the Department of Oncology website. http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/oncology/about/about_cancercare.asp

Through telemedicine, many of our clinicians impart their knowledge and expertise to physicians at institutions within the McGill RUIS.

5. Involvement in the Community

Rosy Cancer Network (RCN)

In the fall **Dr. Wilson Miller** was appointed Clinical Lead of the RCN and Associate Chair, Clinical Affairs, Dept. of Oncology. He replaced **Dr. Jaroslav Prchal** who had taken on those roles on an interim basis. Dr. Miller then appointed leads or co-leads for seven disease sites, as follows: **Drs. Jamil Asselah** (breast), **Thierry Alcindor** (gastro-intestinal), **Khalil Sultanem** (head and neck), **Franck Bladou** and **Simon Tanguay** (genito-urinary), **John Storrington** (hematologic malignancy), **Victor Cohen** and **Scott Owen** (lung disease) and early in 2015 **Drs. Walter Gotlieb** and **Xing Zeng** (gynecological disease). The disease site teams will focus on the following: (i) developing network-wide clinical guidelines; (ii) defining clinical indicators to measure treatment outcomes; (iii) serving as a direct link for clinical trials; (iv) implementing synoptic pathology reporting; (v) driving improvement initiatives.

Six projects were awarded the 2014 inaugural RCN Research Fund. The focus of the research studies are kidney cancer, prostate cancer, oesophago-gastric cancer, breast cancer, lymphedema, and psychosocial oncology. Dept. of Oncology recipients include **Drs. Franck Bladou, Simon Tanguay, Lorenzo Ferri, Thierry Alcindor, Donna Stern, Tarek Hijal, Neil Kopek, Fabio Cury, Marie Vanhuysse, Marc David, Sergio Faria, Lucy Gilbert, Walter Gotlieb** and **Anna Towers**.

Fourth Annual Gerald Bronfman Centre Symposium and Awards Ceremony

The 23rd Gerald Bronfman Centre Symposium and Awards Ceremony on November 24th was a big success. The theme of the 2014 symposium was *Advances in Cancer Therapy* and the keynote speaker was **Dr. Marc Lippman** from the University of Miami. **Drs. Armen Aprikian** and **Gerald Batist** from McGill Oncology also presented and the moderator was **Dr. Jaroslav Prchal**. The award winners were **Dr. Jamil Asselah** (Research and Clinical Service), **Dr. Carmen Loiselle** (Teaching & Mentorship), Marianna Perna (Academic, Clinical and Research Support) and **Drs. Philip Branton** and **Michael Thirlwell** (Lifetime Achievement).

The Visiting Speakers Program in Oncology (VSPO)

In 2014 the VSPO hosted nine speakers who came from Canada, USA, Australia, France, and Austria. Topics included breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, immunotherapies and management of cancer therapy side effects.

Department of Oncology Website

As of the fall the Department of Oncology website went under new management. In previous years content was managed by the Administrative Officer (**Fran Ezzy-Jorgensen** and then **Waheeda Esmail**) and updated on the website by **Winie Celestin**. **Dr. Gayle Shinder** now serves both functions and has been working on refreshing old content, drafting new content and creating new pages to showcase new developments in the Department, and simplifying the back end (working end) of the website.

6. Milestones

New Faculty Appointments

Professors: Christoph Borchers (Molecular Pathology)

Assistant Professors: Shrin Enger (Medical Physics); Hani Al-Halabi (Radiation Oncology)

Faculty Lecturers: Stéphanie Ferland (Radiation Oncology); Christopher MacKinnon (Palliative Care)

Associate Member: Donald Ginsberg (Palliative Care)

Adjunct Member: Normand Blais (VSPO)

Affiliate Members: Filippa Pettersson; Sonia del Rincon

Other New Hires

Devon Phillips (Program Advisor, Palliative Care McGill)

Promotions to Associate Professor

Té Vuong (Radiation Oncology); Antonio Vigano (Palliative Care); Sarit Assouline (Hematology-Oncology)

Retirements

Shirley Lehnert (Medical Physics); Catherine Milne (Surgical Oncology)

Departures

Vanessa Dumeaux (Basic Research); Dawn Allen (Associate Director, Palliative Care McGill); Waheeda Esmail (Administrative Officer, Chair's Office), Winie Celestin (Finance Officer, VSPO Coordinator).

7. Honours, Awards and Prizes

Dr. Philip Branton, **Dr. Ervin Podgorsak**, and **Kappy Flanders** were named to the Order of Canada.

Dr. Jan Seuntjens was appointed as a James McGill Professor; **Dr. Carmen Loiselle** was appointed as Co-Director for Strategic Orientation/Academic of the Segal Cancer Centre; **Dr. Bernard Lapointe's** mandate as Eric M. Flanders Chair in Palliative Medicine was renewed in June 2014.

Dr. Armen Aprikian was named *Fast Family Chief of Oncology* at the MUHC; **Dr. Joanne Alfieri** received the 2014 *IGCS - Shingo Fujii Young Doctor's Summit Award* and the 2014 *Gerard R. Douville Award* (renewed); **Dr. Manny Borod** received The *MUHC Department of Medicine Award for Innovation in Clinical Care or Quality*; **Dr. Fabio Cury** received the prize, *Best Paper on Science and Applied Technology*, at the Canadian Association of Radiation Oncologists Annual Scientific Meeting, for the project *Assessment Of Renal Tolerance After Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy In A Large Animal Model – The Effects Of Treatment Volume And Location Over Time*; **Dr. Cristiano Ferrario** received the Faculty of Medicine's 2014 *Introduction to Clinical Medicine (ICM) Oncology Teaching Award*. This award is given to the physician who has received the most nominations by the students completing Introduction to Oncology; **Dr. Carolyn Freeman** was senior author on the poster, *Should fractionated full dose radiotherapy remain the standard for treatment of metastatic sites in rhabdomyosarcoma?* which won the Best Poster Award at the Annual Meeting of SIOP in Toronto in October; **Dr. William Foulkes** was awarded the prestigious *O. Harold Warwick Prize* (2013 award announced in 2014) and was inducted as a *Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS)*; **Dr. Walter Gotlieb** was elected *President Elect for the Society of Gynecologic Oncology* and was elected *Secretary Treasurer for the International Society of Gynecologic Cancer*; **Dr. Tarek Hijal**

received the *Rosby Cancer Network Award* to pursue a Master's degree at the LSE; **Dr. Ari Meguerditchian** was selected as one of the McGill recipients of the *2014 CAME Certificate of Merit Award* (for medical education). He also received the *Teacher of the Year Award* (Undergraduate Teaching) from the Division of General Surgery; **Dr. Jan Seuntjens'** student won the *Sylvia Fedoruk Award for best paper in medical physics in Canada*.

Drs. Nada Jabado and **Carmen Loiselle** were featured in an article on Personalized Medicine in the fall 2014 issue of the Faculty of Medicine's *Focus* magazine (pages 17-18). The Department nominated **Drs. Marc Fabian, Melissa Henry** and **Luke McCaffrey** to attend the CIHR New Investigators Meeting. All three were invited by CIHR but only Melissa Henry was able to attend.

MUHC Research Institute Awards

Herbert S. Lang Award in Oncology and Surgery: **Drs. Jamil Asselah** and **Krista Lawlor**

Simone and Morris Fast Award for Oncology: **Drs. Shirin Enger** and **Siham Sabri**

Girls for the Cure Research Award: **Dr. Nathaniel Bouganim**

The Catherine Coyne Memorial Fellowship: **Dr. Pnina Brodt**

Dr. Phil Gold Fellowship: **Dr. Ives Levesque**