

**DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2005**

DEPARTMENT

Staff Updates:

Dr. Claudette Bardin has accepted the position as Director of the Medical Wards and the Short Stay Unit and will begin her new responsibilities as of January 2006. She will have reduced responsibilities in Newborn Medicine until June 2006.

Dr. Farhan Bhanji joined a mission to Belarus as part of an international surgical team to provide congenital cardiac care for 35 children undergoing corrective surgery as part of the International Children's Heart Foundation – Congenital Cardiac Surgery Program. Dr. Bhanji was responsible for post-operative intensive care.

Dr. Aurore Côté has been appointed to replace Dr. A.-M. MacLellan, as the Medical Director of the MUHC Pediatric RUIS and Director of the Child, Youth and Family Health Network, effective October 18, 2005. Dr. Côté is well known across Quebec as a strong advocate for care given as close to home as possible. We welcome her in this new position and extend our congratulations.

Dr. Anne-Marie MacLellan has stepped down as Director of the MUHC Pediatric RUIS and Director of the Child, Youth and Family Health Network, effective October 17, 2005. She has accepted a position as Assistant Director, Medical Education at the Collège des médecins du Québec. We wish her good luck in her new vocation.

Dr. Saleem Razack joined a Canadian Congenital Cardiac Surgical Outreach Team that performed 10 cardiac cases in Trinidad for children who were not able to access this specialized healthcare abroad. This Trinidad/Tobago government-sponsored initiative was organized through Caribbean Heart Care. Dr. Razack provided expertise in the post-operative intensive care and was also involved in teaching local physicians and nurses.

Recruitment:

Search Committee:

The work of the search committee for the Director of the Division of **Gastroenterology and Nutrition** is on going. A potential recruit visited The Children's on October 11-12, 2005.

Maternity Replacement:

Dr. Rosie Scuccimarri is on Maternity Leave from September 1st, 2005 to March 12, 2006.

Dr. Annie Janvier is on Maternity Leave from September 7, 2005 to February 28, 2006.

Leave of Absence:

Dr. Christos Karatzios is on leave of absence from July 22, 2005 to June 30, 2006 to pursue a Fellowship in Pediatric HIV Research at Miami's Jackson Memorial Hospital. He will return to the MCH to pursue a career in Infectious Diseases and HIV.

Congratulations to:

Dr. Sharon Abish for having been appointed as the principal investigator for COG at the Montreal Children's Hospital of the MUHC, as a replacement for Dr. Carolyn Freeman in this role. We thank Dr. Freeman for having served as Interim PI.

Dr. Franziska Baltzer for having been featured in the October 10 special anniversary edition of MacLean's Magazine. She was interviewed for an article on sex and teenagers.

Dr. Ciaran Duffy for having been interviewed on juvenile arthritis for The World Show with Bob Scully that will air in more than 60 American cities.

Dr. Diane Munz for having been inducted in the McGill University Quarter Century Club at their 38th Annual Reception, on September 29, 2005.

Dr. A. Papageorgiou for having been granted the Soranos Award for Science 2005, October 2005; Ephesus/Kusadasi-Aydin, Turkey.

Dr. A. Papageorgiou for having been inducted into the newly formed International Academy of Perinatal Medicine. He has also been selected by members of the Academy to receive the prestigious William Silverman Medal, which was to be presented in Barcelona on May 28. Dr. Papageorgiou is the only Canadian, and one of only four North Americans, to receive this award honouring excellence in this field.

Dr. Gary Pেকেles for having been named as a member of the Table sectorielle mère-enfant in replacement of Dr. A.-M. MacLellan.

Dr. Saleem Razack for having joined the McGill Centre for Medical Education as a Core Member.

Dr. Susan Tange for having been inducted in the McGill University Quarter Century Club at their 38th annual Reception, on September 29, 2005.

And to ...

Dr. R. Scuccimarri on her baby boy (Matthew), born on September 6, 2005

McGill UNIVERSITY

McGill Appointments:

Congratulations to the following individuals who were reappointed:

Dr. K. Glass as Director of the Biomedical Ethics Unit, McGill University.

Dr. D. Rosenblatt as Chair of the Department of Human Genetics, McGill University.

The McGill Medical Skills Centre

The McGill Medical Skills Centre is the most important step forward in clinical and surgical skills training at McGill. The Centre – the largest and most important facility of its kind in Canada – will combine training techniques from high-risk professions in aviation and emergency response with the latest medical stimulation technologies. Fully integrated into McGill's professional programs, the Centre will provide the next generation of doctors, nurses and physiotherapists with hands-on training in difficult and potentially dangerous procedures without risk to patients. It will promote the importance of teamwork in health care delivery. Established health care professionals will also be able to take advantage of the Centre for the professional upgrading that will be increasingly required by licensing bodies. The end result will be a culture that is committed to professional accountability, critical assessment and life-long

learning. The McGill Medical Skills Centre will occupy an ideal downtown site in close proximity to the campuses of both McGill University and the University de Montréal.

THE McGill UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE (MUHC)

THE MONTREAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Telehealth Program

Dr. Linda Christmann, the Associate Executive Director of the MCH, and Johanne Desrochers will fill the roles of Director and Associate Director, respectively, of the MUHC Telehealth Program. The MUHC has also created a committee to coordinate the development of our Telehealth initiatives. This committee, chaired by Ann Lynch, Chief of Clinical Operations, has representation from diverse environments of the MUHC.

Telehealth provides patient care and education via telelinks to remote areas of Canada and to our community. It allows us to interface with front-line caregivers across the province as well as allows MUHC professional staff to do virtual follow-up visits through telecommunication devices placed directly in patients' homes. At the moment, we have 1,700 Telehealth encounters across the MUHC and we are continuing to grow.

Shriners Hospital Stays in Montreal

We are pleased to acknowledge that the Shriners delegates in Baltimore have voted to keep the Shriners Hospital in Montreal. This decision reflects the quality of care and research that has been built over 80 years in Montreal. Congratulations to all of the many volunteers and staff of the Shriners who worked to achieve this welcome outcome.

NACHRI

The Montreal Children's Hospital has been accepted as Quebec's first institutional member of the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI). The Children's becomes one of 192 members and supporters of the non-profit association and Quebec's first voting member. NACHRI is an organization of children's hospitals with members in the United States, Australia, Canada, Italy, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. NACHRI is a collective voice for health systems devoted to the well-being of children and their families.

Camp for Children with Arthritis

For a second year in a row, The Arthritis Society and its five partner hospitals – The Montreal Children’s Hospital (Founding Partner), the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, the Ste-Justine University Health Centre, the Québec University Health Centre (CHUQ), and the Sherbrooke University Health Centre (CHUS) –organized a summer camp for children with juvenile arthritis. Over thirty children between the ages of 8 and 16 benefited from taking part in a wide range of activities in a safe, adapted environment. This innovative project has been implemented in order to meet several needs expressed by these afflicted children. This camp enabled them to participate in the same activities as those undertaken by un-afflicted children and allowed them to interact with other young people having the same difficulties.

Camp Carowanis - Diabetic camp for children

Dr. Mimi Belmonte, the founder and long-standing Director of the Diabetes Clinic at the MCH, initiated the idea of a summer camp for children with diabetes mellitus in 1957. A group of volunteers and physicians, including Dr Eleanor McGarry, an Endocrinologist at the RVH, Dr Nicolas Steinmetz, and Dr Eleanor Harper, the Director of Biochemistry at the Children’s, helped raise funds for Quebec Camp for Diabetic Children. Dr. Alan Ross, Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, facilitated the development of the camp and strongly supported it. Doctor Belmonte was Medical Director of the camp from 1958 to 1982. Initially, the camp occupied rented facilities, but eventually, sufficient money was raised to purchase the current property on Lac Didi in Ste-Agathe. The purpose of the camp was, and still is, to receive children and adolescents with insulin-dependent diabetes in a summer camp situation to show them that children with diabetes were not “sick”, and that they could in fact do anything that anybody else could do if they followed certain simple rules. The emphasis has been on physical activity and on sports such as swimming, canoeing and sailing, as well the usual camping activities. Teaching on the nature of juvenile diabetes and nutrition is stressed, but there is rigorous testing and supervised insulin administration, including the recent addition of insulin pump therapy. Over 200 campers are welcomed each summer.

The strong tradition of support from the MCH has continued to this date. Dr Robert Barnes is the current Medical Director of Camp Carowanis and Dr Robert Rosenfeld is the outgoing President of the Board of Camp Carowanis, being replaced by Dr Monique Gonthier of HSJ. Since 2001, Dr Harvey Guyda has been President of the Diabetic Children’s Foundation that supports the Camp, replacing Dr Mimi Belmonte.

MUHC RESEARCH INSTITUTE NEWS

EXTERNAL FUNDING RESULTS

MCH investigators had an overall 50% success rate in the March 2005 CIHR competition for individual operating grants, a rate which compares very favorably with the 28% country-wide success rate and 40% for the MUHC. The following received grants in capacity as Principal investigators:

Dr. Nada Jabado received a new grant of \$282,381 for a term of three years in support of “Identification of molecular and genetic events involved in oncogenesis of pediatric glioblastoma”.

Dr. Rima Rozen received a new grant of \$296,406 for a term of three years in support of “Low dietary folate and colorectal carcinogenesis”.

Dr. Jacquetta Trasler received renewal support for five years valued at \$732,218 for “Mechanisms of regulation of gene expression in the mammalian germline”.

Dr. Aimee Ryan received a grant of \$96,161 for a one-year term for “Patterning the left-right axis during embryogenesis”.

Dr. Immanuela Moss received a grant of \$50,000 from the CIHR in support of “Neuromodulators and maturation of respiration”.

In addition, the following MCH investigators were co-applicants on successful CIHR applications:

Dr. Rhoda Kagan, in collaboration with principal investigator Dr. Ann Clarke and two McGill colleagues, received renewal support valued at \$444,744 for a three-year term for “Is the prevalence of peanut allergy increasing? A five year follow-up study on the prevalence of peanut allergy in Montreal school children aged 5 to 9 years”.

Dr. Bruce Mazer is one of eight members of the McGill CIHR Group in Respiratory Disease which was renewed for funding. Directed by Dr. James Martin, the Group received \$1,219,514 over a term of five years.

Dr. Lily Hechtman, in collaboration with co-principal applicant, Dr. Chawki Benkelfat and four McGill colleagues, received a new grant of \$317,055 for a term of three years for “Amphetamine-induced dopamine release in treatment-naïve adults with ADHD: A PET/(11C) raclopride study”.

Dr. Robert Platt, in collaboration with principal investigator Dr. Edouardo Franco and co applicant Dr. Salaheddin Mahmud, received a new grant of \$122,242 for a term of two years for “Natural history of HPV infection and CIN in a high risk area”.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Dr. Ernest Seidman received the inaugural appointment to the Bruce Kaufman Chair in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases at McGill University.

Dr. Franco Carnevale has been named to the Faculty of Medicine Honour List for Educational Excellence for 2005-2006.

Dr. Brian Greenfield was elected a "Distinguished Fellow" by the American Psychiatric Association in 2005.

Dr. Robert Platt was awarded the Prix d'excellence 2005 by the Foundation for Research into Children's Diseases in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of child health research.

Dr. I. Barry Pless has been elected a Fellow in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

NEW INVESTIGATORS

Loydie Jerome-Majewska, PhD has joined the Departments of Pediatrics and Human Genetics as Assistant Professor. Dr. Majewska will initiate fundamental research concerned with placental development and early patterning in mice.

RESEARCH INSTITUTE PRODUCTIVITY DATA

The 2004-2005 term has been very productive for the Research Community at the Children's. Peer-reviewed funding stands at \$8.16 million while the Institute's overall budget for research has reached \$11.6 million. During this term there were 50 externally peer-reviewed investigators conducting research at the MCH, who in 2004-2005, averaged over \$163,000 each in external grant and salary awards. There were 18 investigators at the Children's in receipt of external competitive salary awards, representing a total value of \$1.05 million. During this term MCH affiliated investigators trained 103 graduate students and research and post-doctoral fellows, and in 2004 produced 302 publications of which 222 were peer-reviewed articles.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

Gregory H. Reaman, M.D.

Professor of Pediatrics at George Washington University
School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Chairman of the Children's Oncology Group in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Reaman, a native of Ohio, obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Science from the University of Detroit. This was followed by medical school (1973) and internship at Lyola, Chicago; **residency in pediatrics at The Montreal Children's Hospital**, then Pediatric Oncology fellowship, Pediatric Branch NCI. He joined George Washington University School of Medicine and the Children's National Medical Center of Washington where he remains to date. At George Washington, he rose to be Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. In 2001, he was elected chair of the newly formed Children's Oncology Group (from the merger of POG and CCG). In 2003, he stepped down as Chair of the department of Hematology/Oncology to concentrate on the administrative responsibilities of the Children's Oncology Group.

Dr. Reaman's special research interests are in the area of Pharmacology, and new drug development, and clinical research interests are in management of children with ALL.

John L. Carroll, M.D.

Chief of Pulmonology at Arkansas Children's Hospital
Professor of Pediatrics, University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences College of Medicine

Dr. Carroll received his M.D. degree at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School and completed his residency in pediatrics at Upstate Medical Centre, State University of New York. Following a clinical year of Pediatric Pulmonology Fellowship at the University of Arizona, **Dr. Carroll completed a three-year Pediatric Pulmonary Research Fellowship at McGill University in Montreal.** From there, he joined the Johns Hopkins Department of Pediatrics, where he worked for 13 years before moving to join the Department of Pediatrics at UAMS as director of pediatric pulmonary medicine in 2000. Dr. Carroll's research includes childhood sleep disorders, breathing control development during infancy and mechanisms of oxygen sensing by the carotid body chemoreceptors.

CPS Abstract Deadline: December 5, 2005, midnight EST.

IN MEMORIUM

Dr. Norman Russell Eade passed away peacefully on August 19, 2005. **Dr. Eade** attended primary school in Hawarden, SK, before moving to Moose Jaw, SK. Norman graduated from the College of Pharmacy at the University of Saskatchewan. After earning a Master of Science in Pharmacology, he studied at Oxford University. After completing a doctorate degree in Pharmacology, he became an Associate Professor at McGill for several years. Later, he earned a MDCM (McGill). He studied and did research at Johns Hopkins before returning to McGill. He shifted his emphasis to Toxicology at The Montreal Children's Hospital where he initiated and ran the Poison Control Centre. During his career, he was physician, social worker and legal advisor to generations of children and their families. Memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Our condolences go out to:

Dr. Davinia Withington on the loss of her mother, **Mrs. Olive Withington**, in England, on August 5, 2005. Contributions in her memory may be made to the National Children's Home, UK.

Dr. Geoffrey Dougherty on the loss of his father, **Donald Bruce Dougherty** who passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on October 27, 2005 at the age of eight-five, after a brief illness. A memory service was held at Mount Royal United Church, on Tuesday, November 1, 2005. In lieu of flowers, donations to The Montreal Childrens' Hospital Foundation or the Fondation Charles Bruneau-Hopital Ste-Justine would be appreciated.

PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR AGENDAS TO ATTEND:

DEPARTMENTAL MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2005

5:30 p.m. Refreshments

6:00 p.m. Meeting to begin

**FORBES-CUSHING AMPHITHEATER
(D-182)**

ATTENDANCE IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED