



THE SQUARE KNOT



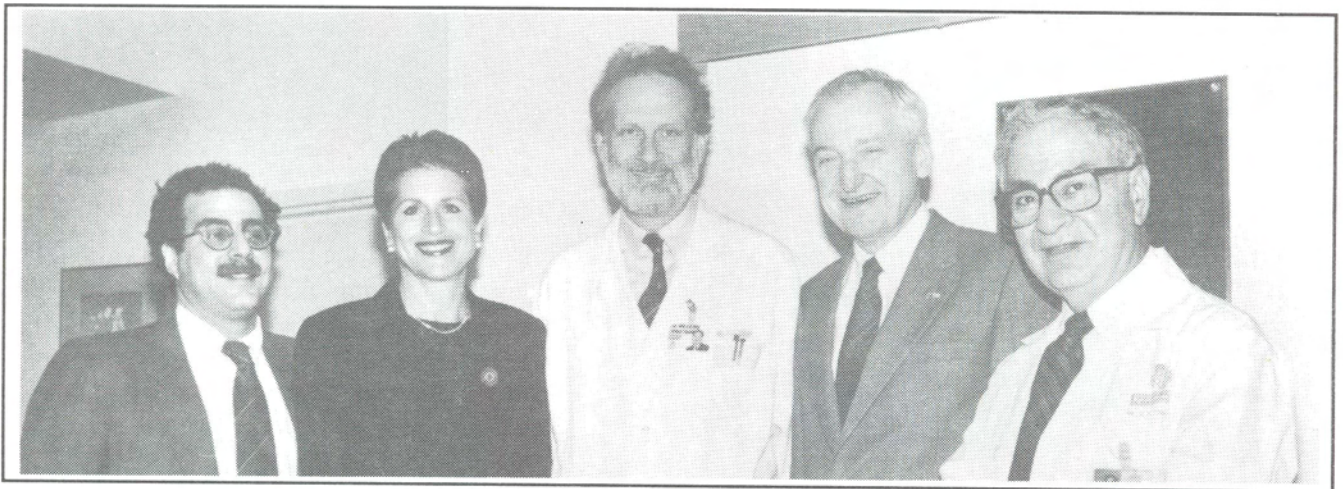
Department of Surgery

McGill University

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3, No. 1, Summer 1992

Dr. Walter Lawrence, Jr. First Edward J. Tabah Visiting Professor in Surgical Oncology



Left to right: Dr. Roger Tabah, Mrs. Gwendolyn Nacos, Dr. Jonathan L. Meakins, Dr. Walter Lawrence, Dr. Edward J. Tabah

On April 8-10 the Cedars Cancer Institute at the Royal Victoria Hospital sponsored the visit of Dr. Walter Lawrence, Jr. to the McGill Department of Surgery as the first Edward J. Tabah Visiting Professor in Surgical Oncology.

Dr. Lawrence came to know Dr. Tabah when the latter was his senior resident in the 1950's at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr. Lawrence related some anecdotes from those days. At times he felt that this was more difficult a period than when he subsequently served as a surgeon with the United States Army in the Korean War!

Dr. Lawrence, Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Virginia, served as that institution's Chairman of the Division of Surgical Oncology from 1966 to 1990.

As President of the American Cancer Society, Dr. Lawrence heads a very large organization, second in the United States only to the National Cancer Institute. It has 3,000 units, 57 divisions and over 2 million volunteers (most of whom have been touched by cancer themselves or through their family). The ACS contributes some 90 million dollars a year to cancer research.

On the morning of April 9, at Surgical Grand Rounds at the MGH, Dr. Lawrence addressed *Current treatments of*

sarcomas and in the afternoon, at the RVH, he recommended *Controlled clinical trials in surgical oncology*, particularly in the prevention of cancer. ■

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Fraser Gurd Day May 28, 1992



Dr. Fraser Gurd, Professor Emeritus, addresses the audience.

Dr. J. Alex Haller, Jr., Robert Garret Professor of Pediatric Surgery and formerly Children's Surgeon in Charge at The Johns Hopkins University, was a resounding success as the Third Annual Fraser Gurd Visiting Professor. His was a multidimensional visit in that he was guest lecturer at the Children's on May 27, guest lecturer at the General and the Vic on May 28 and chairman of the jury to award the David + Geck research awards. Dr. Haller's three presentations testify to his eclectic interests in surgery:

- *Newborn respiratory distress and the neonatal surgeon*
- *Paediatric trauma: What have we learned and what are the challenges?*
- *Diagnosis and management of chest wall deformities*

The research presentations by the residents and fellows

were a source of great pride and demonstrated the breadth of intellectual activity in the department. This year, more than ever before, the standards of presentation, slides, organization of work, quality of design and delivery were so high that judging has become increasingly difficult. Dr. Haller, head adjudicator, was joined by Orest Blaschuk, David Mulder and Jonathan Meakins. Attendance by the residents was outstanding as they supported their colleagues. However, staff participation could be improved. Dr. Gurd was visibly impressed by the increasing breadth and complexity of modern surgical research.

At the reception and dinner in the Oval Room of the Ritz-Carlton, the graduating residents, from all the divisions, were honoured and presented with a certificate and memento. Dr.

Gurd commented on the evolution of surgery and how our department and residents are part of the progress.

Next year's Fraser Gurd Visiting Professor will be Dr. Ward O. Griffin, Jr., Executive Director of the American Board of Surgery. The event will be held on May 27, 1993. ■



Dr. Gerald Fried, Program Director - General Surgery, congratulates Dr. Oren Steinmetz.

Presentations by Residents and Fellows

First Prize (\$700): Glassman, Jonathan – *Microknurled surfaces for implant attachment by bone ingrowth: Development and evaluation in canine studies*

Second Prize (\$500): Oung, Christopher – *Bleeding time and arterial bleeding in hypothermic vs. normothermic subjects*

Third Prize (\$300): MacCalman, Colin – *N-cadherin expression in the seminiferous epithelium of the mouse*

Adoumie, Riad – *Double gloving might predispose to injury by blunting temperature perception*

Alini, Mauro – *Angiogenesis in skeletal development*

Areatat, Zaid – *Aneurysm in a model of atherosclerosis*

Barayan, Sameh – *Protection of the newborn myocardium*

Dahan, Philip – *Determining the ideal parameters for direct electrical stimulation of denervated skeletal muscle*

Fecteau, Annie – *Immunomodulation in small bowel transplants in the rat*

Greenfield, Garry – *'Bouquet fixation' of humeral neck fractures*

Hassan, Ayman – *The effect of insulin and sabeluzole on bladder and sexual functions in diabetic male rats*

Heron, Tim – *Spinal cord distraction - An in vitro study of the effects of spinal curvatures on cord interstitial pressures*

Lee, Chung-Hae – *Gene expression during gonadal sex differentiation in the mouse*

Ma, Felix – *Myocardial regeneration*

Nguyen, Dao – *Lessons learned from routine prophylactic use of OKT3 for renal transplantation*

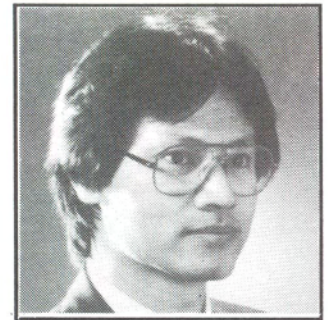
Nip, John – *Human melanoma cells derived from lymphatic metastasis utilize integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ to adhere to lymph node vitronectin*

Odim, Jonah – *Dynamic cardiomyoplasty* ■



Dr. Meakins, Chairman, presents a plaque and Department of Surgery tie to Dr. Haller.

Hat trick for Chris Oung



For the third consecutive year Dr. Christopher Oung has received one of the three prizes awarded for the best papers presented at the Fraser Gurd Research Day. In 1991, he ranked first in the competition and in 1990 tied for second place. This past May, he again ranked second in a field of outstanding presentations. It is particularly remarkable that he continues to produce such high quality research during his chief residency. As Dr. Fried remarked at the Fraser Gurd banquet, Dr. Oung is proof that productive research can be done on little sleep, at night and on weekends. Dr. Oung's impressive record augurs well for a bright future in academic medicine. ■

TO ALL OUR GRADUATING RESIDENTS!

Our hearty congratulations to you all on your achievement. Please be sure to notify us of any change of address, so that you can stay in touch with the department through

THE SQUARE KNOT

Good luck!

Graduating Residents 1992



General Surgery

Frank Campanile
David Clas
Mark Healey
Andrew Hill
Teanoosh Hosseinzadeh
Steven Jackson
Danny Marelli
Dao Nguyen
Christopher Oung
Ian Rubins
Abdel Salem
Baird Smith
Oren Steinmetz
Paul Wizman

Neurosurgery

Georges Haddad
Ian Ross
Abbas Sadikot

Plastic Surgery

Tasso Dionisopoulos
Daniel Durand
Chen Lee

Orthopaedics

Keith Belhasen
Wayne Colizza
Michel Daigle
Donald Deforno
Faiz Felemban
Garry Greenfield
Timothy Heron
Errol Mortimer
Stephen Nichols
Joyce Tarbet
Ross Wilkinson

C.V.T.

William T. Kidd (C.T.)
Jerome Riebman (V.)

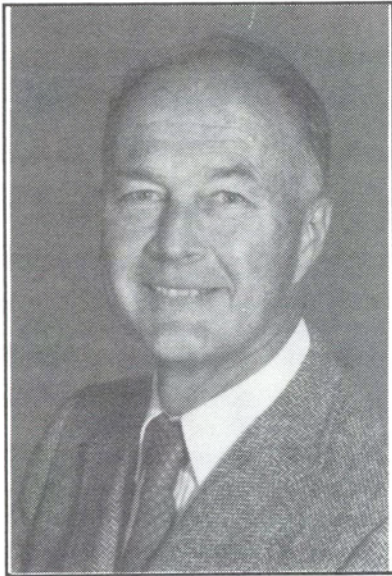
Paediatric Surgery

Andrew Hong

Urology

Abdallah Almalki
Gary Bellman
Simon Tanguay

Dr. Tony Dobell Honoured at Stikeman Dinner



In a warm atmosphere at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Friday evening, June 5th, Dr. Anthony Dobell received many accolades from those attending the Stikeman Dinner, the final event of the 25th Annual Stikeman Professorship. Dr. Dobell is retiring as Head of the Division of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery at McGill, a position he has held since 1973.

Dr. David Mulder was the MC at this testimonial banquet, and there were quite a number of speakers, both official and unofficial. Dean Richard L. Cruess proposed a toast to the guest of honour, and Dr. Fraser Gurd provided perspective on the evolution of CVT surgery at McGill. Dr. Jonathan L. Meakins announced that Dr. Ray Chiu would be Tony Dobell's successor, and Dr. Chiu avowed that he would strive to maintain the high standards and "family" spirit of CVT training at McGill. A number of alumni in turn rose to pay tribute and relate anecdotes about training under Dr. Dobell: Alan Graham (RVH), Garrett Walsh (Houston, TX), Stephen Mills (Winston-Salem, NC), Tom Burdon (Palo Alto, CA), Guy Lemire (Long Beach, CA), Eric Foster (Albany, NY), Normand Poirier (Hôpital Notre-Dame), Mike Dewar (New Haven, CT), Richard Novick (London, Ont.) and Tom Salerno (Toronto), as did guest André Duranceau, thoracic surgeon at Hôtel-Dieu. Rick Long, thoracic surgeon in Erie, PA, was present with his wife and informed us that his parents, Isobel and Dr. "Shorty" Long, are quite well. Dr. David Alton Murphy (Halifax, NS) auctioned off a T-shirt autographed by Tony and with a special CVT logo designed by Tony to raise funds for the Picnic Reunion of his former patients being held the next day. Jim Symes read a number of letters from former Stikeman Professors and CVT alumni, all of whom professed

Dr. Dobell to be a giant in the field of CVT surgery ever since his training with Dr. John Gibbon, Jr. in 1952.

Other speakers were CVT resident Pat Ergina, who gave Dr. Dobell an album with photographs of all his former residents, and Christo Tchervenkov who, on behalf of the cardiovascular surgery service at the MCH, presented a black and white portrait of Dr. Dobell which will hang in the Children's Hospital. Dr. Dobell paid tribute to the perfusionists and their signal role in the development of cardiac surgery. Several were present (David Edgell, Roger Samson, Joe Burke and Maurice Martin). David Edgell recounted an anecdote which provoked gales of laughter.

The Organizing Committee for the 25th Stikeman Professorship included Ms. Alexandra Wallis, Ms. Connie Cloutier, Drs. David Mulder, Ray Chiu, Jim Symes, and Christo Tchervenkov. ■

Dr. George Block 1991 Annual Visiting Professor Division of General Surgery

On October 11, 1991 the Division of General Surgery were delighted to welcome Dr. George Block, The Thomas Jones Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Chicago

At Surgical Grand Rounds at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Dr. Block related his experience with 1379 patients with primary and recurrent Crohn's disease, studied between 1970 and 1988, one of the largest series ever reported in the world. These patients, had recurrent rates of 20% at 5 years and 34% at 10 years. Perineal disease was associated with a significantly higher risk of local recurrence than any other site. Failure of medical treatment was the most common indication for surgery. Resection and primary anastomosis was feasible in 88% of jejunio-ileal and terminal ileal cases and a temporary ileosty was necessary in only 12%. A resection with primary anastomosis was feasible in only 32% of patients with colonic disease. Colonic disease carries a five-fold greater risk of stoma placement than other sites.

In addition, Dr. Block spoke at Surgical Grand Rounds at the Montreal General Hospital on *A rationale for pelvic lymph node dissection in the treatment of carcinoma of the rectum.*

At the Division of General Surgery Annual Dinner held at the University Club, Dr. Block, who is also Chairman of the Advisory Council for Surgery of The American College of Surgeons, addressed the subject of *The North American general surgeon – an endangered species?* His visit was much enjoyed by residents and staff alike. ■

McGill Accepts Challenge to Train More General Surgeons for the Province of Quebec

In his white paper entitled "La Médecine axée sur le citoyen", the Minister of Health and Social Affairs, Marc-Yvan Côté, stipulated that the Province of Quebec should train more General Surgeons and more specialists in Internal Medicine. The *décret* for 1992 has given the four Quebec medical schools 20 extra residency positions for General Surgery and 20 specialty positions for Internal Medicine. The McGill Department of Surgery has taken measures to cooperate in that objective. Dr. Gerald Fried and his Training Committee have arranged for special training for those whose objective is to practice in a community setting as well as for those who plan on an academic surgical practice.

Effective July 1, 1992, a two-year Core Program for *Surgery in General* has been instituted at McGill. Dr. Carl Nohr (McGill '78) is Director of the Core Program. This 24 month continuum provides basic training for residents in General Surgery, Urology, Orthopaedic Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Paediatric Surgery and Plastic Surgery. Residents going on to Neurosurgery or Otolaryngology spend only one year in the Core Program. For 1992-93 there are 28 trainees entering the program and 15 second year residents. ■



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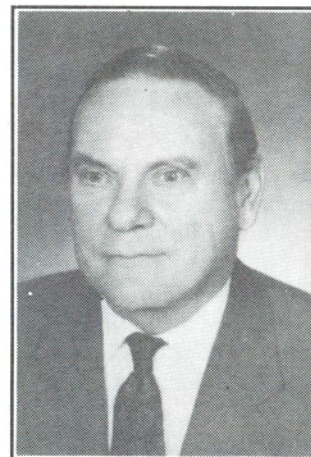
Gift to Core

The standard reference text for the Core Program will be *Care of the Surgical Patient* published by Scientific American Medicine. Each Core resident will receive a subscription to the American College of Surgeons' two-volume loose-leaf textbook on pre and

postoperative care. This gift from the Department of Surgery is supported by all departments and divisions participating in the Core Program. ■

Thanks to Dr. Steven Jackson and Dr. Stephanie Helmer for their active participation and contribution during the past year on the McGill Postgraduate General Surgery Education Committee.

Congratulations to Dr. Annie Fecteau, (Senior Representative) and Dr. Sarah Bouchard (Junior Representative) who have been elected for July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993



Dr. Bruce Williams

Familiar Face — New Hat

Dr. Bruce Williams, Head of the Division of Plastic Surgery at McGill University, has been appointed Surgeon-in-Chief at the Montreal Children's Hospital, succeeding Dr. Tony Dobell who retired on July 1, 1992. Dr. Williams' office will be at the MCH but he will maintain some clinical activity at the Montreal General Hospital, concentrating primarily on hand surgery. ■

Dr. Elhilali appointed to Chair in Urology

Dr. Mostafa Elhilali, Head of the Division of Urology at McGill and the Department of Urology at both the MGH and RVH, was appointed to the Stephen Jarislowsky Chair in Urology as of April 1, 1992. Said Mr. Jarislowsky, a successful Montreal investment counsellor: "I didn't want a guy who does abstruse research, not a person who does intellectual acrobatics. The main function of the professor would be to influence people around him." He decided to endow a Chair in Urology for a doctor who had treated him well, Dr. Elhilali. ■

ARE YOU ONE OF THESE?

RAMQ 1990	Average Gross Earnings	Number in Quebec
General Surgery	141,090	529
Orthopaedic Surgery	131,541	275
Plastic Surgery	137,555	101
Neurosurgery	121,992	59
Urology	184,229	136
CVT	189,078	68



KUDOS

Dr. Pnina Brodt has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Dr. Brodt is an oncologist and one of the Department of Surgery's most productive scientists. Her work deals mainly with the mechanisms of metastases and endothelial tumour interactions.

Dr. Alan Graham, vascular surgeon at the RVH, is going on to a position as Chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J. We wish him well in his new position which he takes up September 1, 1992.

Dr. John Keyserlingk, Surgeon-in-Chief at St. Mary's Hospital, was recently invited to the Head & Neck Division of the Cairo Cancer Institute as Visiting Professor of Surgery. He hopes to establish a privileged link between the Cairo Cancer Institute and McGill which will result in interesting opportunities for training and research.

Dr. Guillermo (Willie) Malavé, who graduated from General Surgery at McGill in 1970, writes from Caracas, Venezuela where he is now Surgeon-in-Chief of the Cardiovascular Division at the Army Hospital. Willie is proud to have two Canadian-born sons, one a mechanical engineer and the other a business administrator. As a hobby, he manages a modest cattle ranch.

Dr. Donald McFadden, who graduated from the McGill Postgraduate Training Program in General Surgery in 1981 is currently in Commerce, Georgia. He has recently completed recertification by the American Board of Surgery with superior marks. He scored in the top 1% of 847 general surgeons who took the examination nationwide. Don and his wife Carol have three daughters, Jessica, Stephanie and Kristina.

Dr. Jonathan L. Meakins was appointed coeditor of the *Canadian Journal of Surgery* along with Dr. Roger Keith of the university of Saskatchewan. They succeed Drs. Lloyd MacLean and Barber Mueller who retired from that position on June 30, 1992. Dr. Meakins participated in a panel discussion on the *Challenges to fulfilling the AHSC (Academic Health Sciences Centre) mission* at the APMC meeting held in Toronto, April 26-28 1992. He also participated in a *Course on Pre and Postoperative Care* and in a *Symposium on the Future of Endoscopic Surgery* at the IV Latin American Congress of the American College of Surgeons held in Buenos Aires, May 3-6 1992.

Dr. David Mulder is enjoying a deserved sabbatical over the

summer. Most of his time will be spent in Marseille with Professors Michel Noirclerc, J.F. Dumont and C. Boutin studying the application of thoracoscopy to the modern surgical management of thoracic disease. Other stops will include Cologne with Prof. Hans Troidl (Düsseldorf), and Dundee, Scotland with Prof. Alfred Cuschieri. Thoracoscopy, already underway at the MGH, will become a major activity at the MGH and the Centre for Thoracic Surgery at McGill.

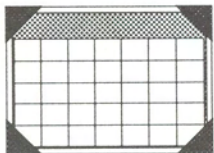
Dr. Richard Novick, who completed his general surgery training at the RVH in 1985 and CVT training at McGill in 1987, has been promoted to Associate Professor in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the University Hospital of the University of Western Ontario. He has served on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation* for the past two years and has published eleven first-authorship, full length publications within the same time period. He was recently awarded a \$70 000 grant from the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as well as a \$100 000 grant from the Heart and Stroke Foundation to further his research in experimental lung preservation.

Dr. A. Robin Poole, Director of the Joint Diseases Laboratory at the Shriners Hospital, has been very busy. He was the organizer, chairman and speaker of an International Congress on Inflammation relating to cartilage and bone in Rome, Italy in October of 1991. He attended a conference on osteoarthritis sponsored by Merck, Sharpe, Dohme in Rahway, New Jersey in 1991. He was the chairman of the organizing committee as well as a speaker at an International Meeting on the Biology and Pathology of the Extracellular Matrix in Lorne, Victoria, Australia in November, 1991. He also attended a symposium on Molecular Pathogenesis of Osteoarthritis at the University of Southern California in San Diego in April of 1992. Robin currently holds two Medical Research Council operating grants for research in arthritis and skeletal development.

Dr. Lawrence Rosenberg has been appointed the representative for Regional Council IV at the Royal College Council.

Dr. Hani Shennib chaired a session on *Experimental lung transplantation* at the International Society of Lung Transplantation in San Diego in April of 1992. He was an invited speaker at a symposium entitled *Controversies in transplantation* at the European Transplantation Society in Maastricht, Netherlands in October, 1991. At this meeting, he debated the advantages of isolated lung transplantation against Dr. John Wallwork from Papworth who advocated heart-lung transplantation. Dr. Shennib is the Director of the Joint Marseille-Montreal Lung Transplantation Program.

Dr. James Symes, Head of Cardiothoracic & Vascular Surgery at the RVH, has accepted the position of Chief, Cardiothoracic Surgery at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Boston as of September 1, 1992. We wish him a fruitful career in Boston. ■



DATES TO REMEMBER

- ◆ Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, September 11-14, 1992, Ottawa.
- ◆ American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, September 17-19, 1992, Louisville, Kentucky.
- ◆ American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, October 11-16, 1992, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- ◆ Association for Academic Surgery, November 18-21, 1992, Montreal (local arrangements by Dr. Gerald Fried).
- ◆ Society of University Surgeons, February 11-13, 1993, Seattle, Washington.
- ◆ American Association for Thoracic Surgery, April 26-28, 1993, Chicago, Illinois.
- ◆ American Urological Association, May 16-20, 1993 San Antonio, Texas.
- ◆ Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, May 17-19, 1993, Seattle, Washington.
- ◆ ISCVS/SVS, June 7-9, 1993, Washington, D.C.
- ◆ Canadian Urological Association, June 20-24, 1993 Montreal (Dr. M. Elhilali, President).
- ◆ Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, September 9-13, 1993, Vancouver.
- ◆ American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, September 23-25, 1993, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- ◆ American College of Surgeons, October 10-15, 1993, San Francisco, California.



WELCOME ABOARD

Dr. Max Aebi takes over as of September 1, 1992 from Dr. Carroll Laurin as Head of Orthopaedic Surgery at McGill and Chief of Orthopaedics at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

Dr. Aebi was Chief of Spinal Surgery and Associate Chief Surgeon, Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Berne. He is married to Christine Ochsner, a paediatric endocrinologist who will work at the Montreal Children's Hospital and also have a McGill appointment. They have two children, Samuel Robert and Eva Christina and will be living in Outremont.

At 43, Dr. Aebi is already internationally acknowledged as an authority on spinal surgery and has been a guest speaker in Scotland, Chicago, New York, Germany, Ottawa, Amsterdam, Israel, Madrid, Singapore, Thailand and, more recently, Australia. He is the co-inventor of a new anterior spinal instrumentation system which will be in an international multicenter clinical trial starting at McGill this fall.

Dr. Aebi has published 42 peer review articles, contributed 24 book chapters and supervised 4 theses. He will maintain a very active basic science lab with particular emphasis on cell culture and oncology. The A.O. Foundation and the Swiss National Foundation for scientific research are funding his prospective randomized research project on back pain.

Dr. Aebi is a welcome addition to the McGill Department of Surgery.

Dr. Robert Salasidis (McGill '86) has been appointed to the Division of General Surgery at the Montreal General Hospital as of July 1, 1992. After graduating from the McGill Postgraduate Training Program in General Surgery, Dr. Salasidis did a one year fellowship in Critical Care under Dr. Stuart Hamilton at the University of Alberta Hospital in Edmonton. His major academic interest is in Critical Care Trauma, particularly involving the use of computer science in the management of traumatized patients. He will also collaborate with Dr. David Fleischer on the use of computer in surgical education.

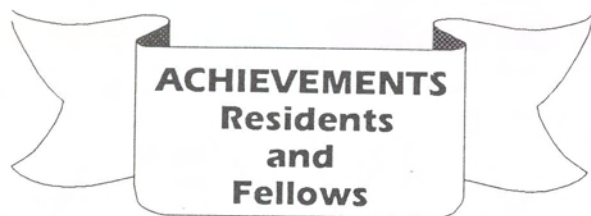
Dr. Stephen Karp (McGill '81) joins the staff at the Jewish General Hospital in September 1992. After graduating from the McGill General Surgery Program he trained in clinical oncology with Dr. Fisher in Pittsburgh as a Fellow of the NSABP and then in immunotherapy with Dr. Stephen Rosenberg at the Surgery Branch of the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Karp has extensive experience in the use of cytokines in cancer therapy as well as in molecular biology and will do both clinical and basic research in collaboration with Dr. Richard Margolese.

Dr. Jean-François Blair (Montreal '83) joins the CVT Division at the Royal Victoria Hospital in August, 1992. After completing his general surgery residency in 1988, Dr. Blair did a fellowship in vascular surgery at the Université de Montréal followed by a further year of training at the Medical College of Wisconsin with Dr. D. Bandyk. He comes to us from the staff of Hôpital Notre-Dame to replace Dr. Alan Graham. ■



Upcoming McGill Surgical Events

- ◆ 8th Annual McGill Review/Update Course in Adult Orthopaedics, October 1-4, 1992.
- ◆ McGill Division of General Surgery Annual Visiting Professor, Dr. Robert Bartlett, October 22, 1992.
- ◆ Annual Visiting Surgeon, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Dr. Herbert Dardik, November 11, 1992
- ◆ Fifth Annual L.D. MacLean Visiting Professor, Dr. Robert W. McMurtry, November 26, 1992.
- ◆ 2nd Edward J. Tabah Visiting Professor in Surgical Oncology, March 10, 1993.
- ◆ McGill Department of Surgery Annual Fraser Gurd Day, Dr. Ward O. Griffin, Visiting Professor, May 27, 1993.



Dr. Riad Adoumie presented at the February 1992 meeting of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons in Orlando, Florida a paper on *Cellular events in the lung allograft*.

Dr. Tassos Dionisopoulos received the Dr. A. Ross Tilley Foundation Scholarship Award of the Education Foundation of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons. This will allow Dr. Dionisopoulos to do a fellowship in microsurgery at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center at Cornell University in New York.

Dr. Daniel Marelli attended a meeting of the Cell Transplant Society in Pittsburg in June where he spoke about his experiments aimed at transplanting skeletal muscle cells to improve failing heart performance. Putting the conference in perspective, he was quoted, in *Science*,: "Our results circumstantially support the concept, but are far from being conclusive."

Dr. Oren Steinmetz and his wife Rebecca Wood welcome their new baby girl, Samantha, born on June 4. She is sister to Madeleine. Oren is presently doing a six-month fellowship in vascular surgery at the Ottawa Civic Hospital to be followed by another six months at the Ottawa General Hospital. ■

Association for Surgical Education Twelfth Annual Meeting

The McGill Department of Surgery was very much in evidence at this meeting held at Le Château Frontenac in Quebec City April 8-11, 1992.

Dr. Jonathan L. Meakins addressed those attending the annual dinner, the major social event of the meeting, on the subject of *Learning to see: Medicine in art*. In addition, Drs. Paul Belliveau and John Sampalis and Ms. Rita Piccioni presented a paper on *Evaluation in clinical clerkship - The relative value of the ward assessment*.

The seminar by the Corporation Professionnelle des Médecins du Québec on the *Use of a large scale OSCE in the Quebec licensing examination: What can surgical educators learn from the experience?* (presented by Drs. Joelle Lescop, Paul Rainsberry, Carlos Brailovsky and Paul Grand'Maison) was particularly well received. ■

News from Pittsburgh – Dr. Maureen Martin

On June 18, 1992, the RVH had the pleasure of the visit of Dr. Maureen Martin (McGill '82). After graduating from our General Surgery Residency Training Program in 1987, Maureen did a one-year hepatobiliary fellowship at the Lahey Clinic in Boston with Dr. John Braasch, followed by a transplantation fellowship with Dr. Anthony Monaco at Harvard. Since 1989 she has been working with Dr. Thomas Starzl in the Transplantation Group at Pittsburgh. She and her team have had some success in the transplantation of small intestine (without synchronous liver) in 9 cases.

At Surgical Grand Rounds, Maureen told of her experience with TIPS (transjugular intrahepatic portosystem shunts). Thirty-nine patients have been treated with this innovative procedure with a 95% success rate. Maureen gave us an algorithm which on occasion even leads to transplantation. She has done over 300 liver transplants, most of them in Pittsburgh. Maureen Martin reflects the calibre and quality of residents who have trained at McGill over the years and is a credit to our department. ■

The Second Annual McGill Urology Research Day

The Second Annual McGill Urology Research Day, held at the Royal Victoria Hospital Thursday, May 7, 1992, was a great success. Drs. Mostafa Elhilali and Michel Bazinet chaired the meeting, and Dr. Edward J. McGuire, Professor and Head of the Division of Urology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, was guest speaker.

Many excellent papers were presented at this meeting which was jointly sponsored by Abbott Laboratories Limited & Berlex Canada Inc.

Prizes were awarded for the following papers:

S.M. Hamdy, M. Bazinet, L.R. Bégin, A. Aprikian, W.R. Fair and G.L. Wright, Jr. – *Monoclonal antibody PD-41 recognizes a prostate cancer associated antigen whose expression increases in metastases and following hormonal therapy.*

C. Lee and T. Taketo – *Gene expression during gonadal sex differentiation in the mouse.*

A. Hassan, M. Hassouna, C. Gagnon and M. Elhilali – *The effect of insulin and sabeluzole on bladder and sexual functions in diabetic male rats.* ■

The Dr. Jo Miller Orthopaedic Research Laboratory

The dedication of the Dr. Jo Miller Orthopaedic Research Laboratory took place in mid-May in the presence of the late Dr. Miller's wife Pat, his children and his many friends.

Dr. Emerson Brooks, Director of Orthopaedic Surgery at the MGH, said in his opening remarks: "This dedication reflects the excellence in orthopaedic research at the MGH which is internationally recognized and which was begun by Jo, so many years ago."

The uniqueness of the lab, one of North America's finest, is that surgeons, engineers and Ph.D's combine medical and engineering skills in biomechanics and medical testing. The investigators concentrate on implants, bone fixation and bone cementing techniques in total hip and knee arthroplasty. One of the chief investigators, Dr. Dennis Bobyn, has received a second Medical Research Council Grant, for the continuing investigation of implants and stability.

The world famous Miller-Galante knee system was, in fact, developed and pioneered by the late Dr. Jo Miller, former Orthopaedic Surgeon-in-Chief at the MGH, and by Dr. Jorge Galante of Rush-Presbyterian, St. Luke's Medical Centre, Chicago.

Since the founding of the lab by Dr. Jo Miller in 1967, the laboratory has gained an international reputation for excellence in research and has been the recipient of several Hip Society Awards for its contribution to the literature in both cemented and noncemented total hip arthroplasty. ■

From "Generally Speaking", MGH, June '92

Where are we going in the 1990's?

Women's issues:

Breast cancer, hysterectomy, estrogen replacement, vaginal birth after cesarean section, contraception, infertility

Cardiovascular issues:

Mild hypertension, angiography, stable angina (coronary artery disease), high cholesterol

Orthopaedic issues:

Low back pain, hip replacement, knee replacement, rheumatoid arthritis, arthroscopy

Men's issues:

Prostate cancer, vasectomy, impotence

Other issues:

Gallbladder removal, cataract removal, organ transplants, bone marrow transplants

Source: Toronto Globe & Mail, April 30, 1992.

Editor's Note: Surgeons will have significant input in the treatment of many of these problems.

TO OPERATE OR NOT?

Variation in prevalence of surgical procedures (rate per 100,000 population)

	Australia	Canada	Denmark	Ireland	Netherlands	New Zealand	Sweden	U.S.
MEN								
Removal of tonsils	83	254	112	248	421	78	59	179
Appendectomy	286	155	199	246	136	183	165	134
Gall bladder removal	74	120	23	38	69	51	101	112
Prostate removal	183	229	234	124	116	191	48	308
WOMEN								
Removal of tonsils	136	298	146	263	421	125	70	231
Appendectomy	394	131	296	245	162	154	171	124
Gall bladder removal	216	316	19	143	192	146	178	288
Hysterectomy	405	470	255	123	381	431	145	556
Mastectomy	262	145	45	149	381	199	145	88

Data are from the nearest available year to 1980.

Source: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Measuring Health Care, 1985. Bernard Bennell/The Globe and Mail.

LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY AT MCGILL

In late 1990 an ever increasing number of general surgeons became caught up in the swelling tide of patient awareness, peer excitement, and the cost effectiveness of laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Numerous postgraduate courses appeared on the scene. Most were of varying quality and content, without institutional or university quality control, driven by private enterprise and unreasonably priced. The Division of General Surgery of McGill University became the first Canadian university to systematically address this issue with a structured training course conforming to the high quality standards and guidelines set by the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) and the Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS).

Under course directors Drs. Marvin Wexler and Harvey Sigman, a faculty consisting of Drs. Jonathan Meakins, John Hinchey, Gerald Fried, Jacob Garzon, Joe Mamazza and Jeffrey Barkun (The McGill Laparoscopic Study Group), organized a monthly course to train Canada's general surgeons. These courses, which started in February 1991, included didactic lectures, and audiovisual presentations and wet laboratories using pig models. Participants were distributed amongst the four McGill Teaching Hospitals where they had the opportunity to observe and assist at laparoscopic cholecystectomies performed in the Operating Room. Over 150 surgeons from across Canada have been trained. These include McGill Staff as well as many former

McGill residents and academic surgeons from across Canada who returned to their own institutions to train their colleagues. The course is highly successful and widely acclaimed.

A recent Canadian Laparoscopic Survey, conducted by Drs. Marvin Wexler, John Hinchey and John Sampalis, has shown that over 85% of Canadian surgeons wishing to learn laparoscopic surgery have now been trained in laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Attention has shifted to laparoscopic hernia repair and the first of a monthly workshop for general surgeons will commence September 21, 1992 at McGill.

As a result of the collaborative effort of the McGill Laparoscopic Group, a detailed prospective study of 1000 consecutive laparoscopic cholecystectomies has been performed as well as a prospective randomized trial comparing mini-cholecystectomy, laparoscopic cholecystectomy and lithotripsy. More than 12 laparoscopic papers have been presented or accepted for publication at a wide variety of national and international meetings. Grants and funding have been obtained for a prospective randomized trial of laparoscopic versus traditional hernia repair with measurement of cost effectiveness and quality of life indices under the direction of Drs. Barkun and Wexler.

Under the leadership of Drs. Mulder and Shennib, thoracoscopic surgery has blossomed at the Montreal General Hospital and training courses for thoracic surgeons have been established. A multitude of thoracic procedures have now been successfully accomplished laparoscopically, including pulmonary resections.

In collaboration with the Université de Montréal, McGill has also sponsored several Advanced Laparoscopic Training Courses directed by Dr. Gerald



Participants at one of the McGill Courses in Laparoscopic Surgery for the General Surgeon held last year. Pictured are Drs. Wexler, Meakins and Fried (Course Faculty) and Dr. Robert Fitzgibbons (Omaha, Nebraska) who was guest lecturer. The participants include McGill staff Drs. Jean Tchervenkov and Judith Trudel as well as many former McGill faces: Dr. Lance Miller (Ontario), Dr. Robin McLeod (Montreal), Dr. Gary Fitzpatrick (Boston), Dr. Malcolm Cumberlidge (B.C.) Dr. Henry Stefaniszyn (Ontario).

Fried. These provide training in procedures such as acid-peptic surgery, hiatus hernia repair, and laparoscopic assisted colon resection.

To further establish McGill's leadership role in laparoscopic surgery a multidisciplinary research laboratory has been established at the Lady Davis Institute of the Jewish General Hospital under the supervision of Drs. Sigman and Garzon. Sizeable grants have been received from industry and government and all members of the McGill Laparoscopic Group will devote time to investigational projects. These laboratories will be used in collaboration with the Divisions of Urology, Gynecology and Thoracic surgery who have also become intimately involved in the laparoscopic approach. ■



MCGILL - ADDIS ABABA LINKAGE UPDATE

As noted in the last issue of THE SQUARE KNOT, the surgery project begun in 1990 ran into difficulties because of political instability and problems with the administration at the Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa.

In January, Dr. Peter McLean moved to Jimma where he was one of three general surgeons serving at the Jimma Health Sciences Hospital. In addition to practicing full time as a general surgeon, he has been involved in the training of general practitioners in basic surgical care and care of surgical emergencies. Dr. Antoine Loutfi moved to a new hospital in Zaouditu where he too has been working full time in practice as well as coordinating the training program for general practitioners in basic surgery. While the last six months have been considerably more successful than the previous, continuation of the project depends on a firm commitment by the Ethiopian Ministry of Health and Addis Ababa University.

Dr. Marvin Wexler visited the project in July to serve as an external examiner of the graduating medical students at the Jimma Health Sciences Institute. He has returned enthused over the possibilities of continued involvement on a large scale. Dr. Edemariam Tsega, a classmate of Dr. Wexler at McGill Medical School, is now Dean of the University at Addis Ababa and numerous meetings were held reconfirming close linkages between our two universities.

We welcome back Drs. Loutfi and McLean and are hopeful that, over the coming year, sufficient support will be forthcoming from the Canadian International Development Agency and the Ethiopian government to allow the project to resume next year. ■



QUARTER CENTURY CLUB

McGill's Quarter Century Club, for staff who have been with McGill for 25 years, welcomed three new members from Surgery in 1992.

Dr. C. Emerson Brooks
Orthopaedic Surgery
Montreal General Hospital

Dr. Robert M. Ford
Neurosurgery
Montreal General Hospital

Dr. Nelson Mitchell
Orthopaedic Surgery
Royal Victoria Hospital

Each new member receives a captain's chair inscribed with the McGill crest.

Chief Residents 1992-93

General Surgery:

Adoumic, Riad (New York)
Chung, Maureen (McGill)
Evans, David (McGill)
Flageole, Hélène (McGill)
Gyopar, Andrew (McGill)
Lachapelle, Kevin (McGill)
Shum-Tim, Dominique (McGill)
Tanguay, Daniel (Montreal)

Orthopaedic Surgery:

Laxer, Eric (McGill)
Meere, Patrick (McGill)
Schmidt, Gary (Saskatchewan)
Stein, Todd (McGill)
Tissenbaum, Allan (McGill)
Wheeler, Thomas (Pennsylvania)

Urology:

Arsenault, Denise (Sherbrooke)

Plastic Surgery:

Cowes-McGowen, Jorge (Panama)
Sinclair, Thomas (McGill)
Thomas, Daniel (McGill)

Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery:

Ergina, Patrick (California)
Ratnani, Salim (Karachi)

Wisconsin Residents Visit McGill

The McGill University Department of Surgery hosted the Eberbach Surgical Travelers from the the Medical College of Wisconsin on June 3-5, 1992. The Eberbach Foundation sponsors a travel program each year, in which a group of surgical residents in their third year, accompanied by a member of the surgical faculty, visit other major surgical centres. This year the group of seven residents and one faculty member chose to visit the surgical departments at McGill University and The University of Toronto.

While at McGill they were hosted by our resident staff and participated in the daily surgical activities. They spent time rounding on the surgical wards, visiting the operating room and attending the surgical rounds and teaching conferences at the Montreal General and Royal Victoria Hospitals. They were also hosted by our surgical residents to an evening of fine dining at Magnan's Tavern.

The Eberbach Surgical Travelers were extremely complimentary of the surgical program at McGill and particularly of the dedicated teaching time Wednesday afternoon. They also greatly appreciated the kind hospitality shown to them by the McGill residents and faculty during their visit.



McGill University

Annual Reception

at the

American College of Surgeons

will be held at the

New Orleans Marriott Hotel

Tuesday, October 13, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

*All McGill staff and house staff
as well as McGill Alumni welcome*

Come one, Come all

Free Food

Open Bar



Submissions Welcome!

We can't do it without you — if you have any information you want published in The Square Knot, comments about our newsletter or suggestions, we want to hear from you!



Send submissions to:

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Moving?

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THE SQUARE KNOT

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