The McGill Division of General Surgery celebrated its Annual L.D. MacLean Visiting Professorship. This year's invited guest was Dr. Michael Mulholland, Frederick A. Coller Distinguished Professor of Surgery and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Michigan Health System. Dr. Mulholland's clinical interests are in the area of gastrointestinal surgery. He has special expertise in laparoscopic surgery and surgical endoscopy.

Annual L.D. MacLean General Surgery Visiting Professor
February 16-17, 2005

A dinner of the Executive members was held in honor of Dr. Mulholland on Tuesday, February 15th.

The scientific program was held on Wednesday, February 16th, which was well attended by staff and residents. The General Surgery Alumni staff present were Dr. R. Brown, Dr. L. Hampson, Dr. J. Hinchey, Dr. A. Hreno, Dr. P. McLean and Dr. H. Shibata. There were debates by Dr. C. Rochon vs Dr. G. Chan on Hepatic Resection Should be Considered for more than four (4) Bilobar Lesions, followed by Dr. R. Baird vs Dr. S. Demyttenaere on Permissive Hypotension is a Superior Resuscitative Strategy in the Management of Trauma Patients; and then by Dr. Simon Bergman vs Dr. Melina Vassiliou on Surgery Should be Considered in the Management of Gastric Lymphoma. The debates presented were interesting and informative.

The winners of each debate were Dr. G. Chan, Dr. S. Demyttenaere and Dr. Melina Vassiliou.

The next highlight of the afternoon was the interesting cases presented by Dr. M. Zerey, Dr. J. Pascual and Dr. V. Sherman. It was remarkable to see that they had

(Please see L.D. MacLean on page 4)

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Dear Editor

Let me introduce myself. I was a surgical resident in the General Surgery Program completing my training in 1986. After two more years of fellowship in Surgical Oncology with Dr. Shibata and Dr. Loutfi, I returned to Saudi Arabia. A few years later, I returned to the USA and did two years of another fellowship in Hepatobiliary Surgery and Abdominal Organ Transplantation. Presently, I am the Chairman of the Department of Hepatobiliary Sciences and Liver Transplantation in K.A. Medical City in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Our medical city is a 700-bed tertiary care center with a nursing school and medical school all in one large complex. Our department performs liver transplantation from deceased and living donors in addition to other medical and surgical aspects of hepatobiliary-pancreatic diseases. We have performed over 190 liver transplants so far and 25 living donor transplants.

I would like to thank you for the regular "great" Square Knot which keeps me informed of the great McGill program, and I must admit that I should have been more forthcoming in contributing to it, but the hectic nature of the work kept me in the "procrastination" corner!! I hope this letter will be the initial step to more activity.

Abdulmajeed Al-Abdulkareem, M.D.
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Dear Editor

I hope things are well. I continue to enjoy reading The Square Knot even though familiar names and faces appear now less and less. This is not surprising since I left the Vic in 1972, 33 years ago. I remember well the great times we had as residents and junior staff; studying together, attending surgical meetings in far away places like Atlantic City and Chicago, the lab parties with Roch Lapointe and working together on research projects. Who besides you, Peter McLean and Henry Shibata would remember the "Shock Team"? We never thought we would grow old, but alas, we have.

In 1998, I decided to retire from clinical practice. I have no regrets. Non-clinical work as VP of Physicians Services Incorporated Foundation, which awards research grants to Ontario physicians and as a Medical Counsellor to the Ontario Workplace Safety and Appeals Tribunal keep me busy. I play tennis twice a week with a large group of retirees and have made many new friends. Of our former colleagues, Jim MacKenzie lives nearby in Sarnia. We stay in touch. Sholto Cole stayed with us for a weekend while attending plays in Stratford. Taffy Slapak has made numerous visits. He is President of the World Transplant Games, which are here in London, Ontario this summer.

I enjoyed thoroughly my many years of work; they were great! Retirement however, though very different, is a phase of life I feel fortunate to have experienced.

John Duff, M.D.

Dear Editor

Thank you for your note. I always enjoy reading The Square Knot even though familiar names and faces appear now less and less. This is not surprising since I left the Vic in 1972, 33 years ago. I remember well the great times we had as residents and junior staff; studying together, attending surgical meetings in far away places like Atlantic City and Chicago, the lab parties with Roch Lapointe and working together on research projects. Who besides you, Peter McLean and Henry Shibata would remember the "Shock Team"? We never thought we would grow old, but alas, we have.

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John Duff, M.D.
THE NEW "SUPER" HOSPITAL
WILL THERE BE ENOUGH BEDS?

On a Saturday in early February, we met one of our out-of-town patients in the RVH Emergency Room. Quite ill, it turned out that she had right middle and lower lobe pneumonia. No beds for admission! The pneumologists even tried to admit her to the Montreal Chest Hospital, but there were no beds there either. There were 21 patients waiting for admission in the ER - 15 for the Department of Medicine alone. We ended up treating her in a Holiday Inn downtown. Will things be any better in the new MUHC? Let us look at some data.

Currently, the number of open beds stands as follows:
- Royal Victoria Hospital .............. 584
- Montreal General Hospital .......... 406
- Total ........................................ 990

The new facilities at Glen Yards are destined to open by 2010. As outlined in an article in The Square Knot Fall issue, there will be 500—550 beds (about 332 less than initially projected) and the MGH will remain open as a complementary site with approximately 300 beds. This amounts to 850 beds - 140 less than we have now!!

The MNI and the MNH will keep its 90 beds. The Montreal Children's Hospital, as we write these lines, has 180 licensed beds of which 28 are for neonatal care, 18 for pediatric critical care, 10 short stay and 8 for psychiatry. The MCH will keep this allotment. It is as yet uncertain if the Shriner's Hospital will stay in Montreal or go to London, Ontario.

We must keep in mind that there are always around 90 Long Term Care (45 declared LTC and 45 acute cases of more than 29 day duration) at the MGH and the same is true for the RVH.

It is interesting to note that the JGH has 637 beds and St. Mary's has 316 adult beds and bassinets.

Let us hope that by the time the new MUHC is opened in 2010, that there is no longer any "congestion" in the new Emergency Department.

"The locket contains a strand of my DNA."
— The New Yorker

Editorial

By E.D. Monaghan, M.D.

Quebec Budget for Health Care

On April 21st, Finance Minister Michel Audet announced that the Health Care expenditures for the year 2005-2006 would be $20.9 billion. This is an increase of $826 million or 4.1% over last year's budget which already included an increase of $1 billion. This new money is being added to improve direct services to the population. It will be distributed in a variety of ways including $75 million to reduce hospital deficits and $50 million for upcoming action plans targeting mental health and home care for seniors. Dr. Yves Dugré, Head of the Quebec Federation of Medical Specialists, as well as Dr. Renald Dutil, President of the Quebec Federation of General Practitioners said that this was inadequate and that the increase should have been between $1.1 or $1.2 billion.

Notice

The Quebec Association of General Surgeons
Has changed its name to:
The Quebec Surgical Association

Thanks to Our Contributors

Dr. Norman Belliveau
Dr. Robert M. Levine
Dr. Joseph Stratford
some staff including the Visiting Professor perplexed at some of the cases presented.

The day's events concluded with an excellent presentation by Dr. Mulholland on Generational Change in Surgery.

As a change of venue this year, the banquet was held at the Omni Mont Royal Hotel where the staff and residents enjoyed a fabulous evening. Dr. Meterissian recognized Dr. L.D. MacLean, Dr. L. Hampson, Dr. A. Hreno and Dr. H. Shibata. In turn, they gave an excellent and entertaining speech. The evening concluded with closing remarks from Dr. N. Christou and Dr. M. Mulholland.

Dr. R. Baird then presented the Best Resident Teacher Award to Dr. A. Al-Harthy and Dr. M. Liberman, and Best Staff Teacher Award to Dr. Barry Stein. Dr. Jeffrey Barkun was also acknowledged for his teaching efforts as he was in second place.

The following morning Dr. Mulholland presented an excellent Grand Rounds on Treatment of Peptic Ulcer in the Helicobacter Pylori Era, and this concluded an excellent invigorating General Surgery Day. Another person who needs special mention is Ms. Rita Piccioni who was instrumental in organizing the Day.
Drs. H. Shibata, J. Hinchey, S. Meterissian, L. MacLean, M. Mutholland, N. Chisston, A. Hreno, P. McLean, L. Hampson, G. Fried

Dr. S. Meterissian and General Surgery Residents
In April, a high ranking committee of the Shriner's Board of Trustees recommended at a meeting in Maui that the Shriner's Hospital for Children move to a $100 million pediatric orthopedic facility in London, Ontario. Montreal has been the home to the only Shriner's Hospital in Canada since 1925. Understandably staff, patients and families at the hospital as well as executives of the McGill University Health Centre were disappointed though they reacted stoically and promised to continue fighting to keep the hospital in Montreal. Mr. Gary Morrison, a Karnak Shriner, and Chairperson of the Board of Governors of the Montreal hospital still holds out hope that this decision can be reversed at a meeting in Baltimore in July where the recommendation must be approved by at least two thirds of the 1,447 eligible delegates at the Imperial sessions. Mr. Gene Bracewell, Imperial Treasurer and Chairperson of the Canadian Site Selection Committee, affirmed that there was no single factor that swayed the Shriners to choose London, but that delays over the past five years in approving the McGill University "Super Hospital" frustrated many committee members.

It is still hoped that the Shriners will be able to move to the $1.1 billion hospital in the Glen Railway Yards. Health Minister Philippe Couillard with Montreal Mayor Gerald Tremblay and Dr. Arthur Porter, Executive Director of the MUHC plan to continue to strive to keep the hospital in Montreal. As a matter of fact, Minister Couillard in May announced that his government is ready to adjust its funding formula for the Cedar Avenue hospital to take into account the increased number of Quebec patients. It is possible that the Shriners could receive double its current provincial funding, say about $8 million per year from $4 million per year. Montreal Shriners are waging an intensive campaign to persuade delegates from across North America to side with them as well as Shriners from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland as well as some from New England to keep the hospital in Montreal.


Directorship Division of General Surgery McGill & MUHC

Dr. Nicolas Christou will be stepping down on June 30th, 2005 as Director of the Division of General Surgery at McGill and the MUHC.

Dr. Jeffrey Barkun will be appointed Interim Director, effective July 1st, 2005. This period is crucial for keeping the division on track and it is expected that Dr. Barkun will be fully active in implementing whatever measures are necessary towards this goal. In this, Dr. Barkun has my full support.

We also count on your support and enthusiasm to move the division forward as a cohesive and productive unit.

I will chair the Search Committee to select a successor to Dr. Christou and welcome your suggestions and comments. Those of you wishing to appear personally before the Committee may request to do so. Staff members interested in being considered for the position should signify their interest in writing and submit their C.V.

Mostafa M. Elhilali, M.D.
Chair, McGill Department of Surgery
Director of Surgical Services, MUHC
Education is one of the pillars of academic surgery. It is the vehicle by which we, in university departments of surgery, attract the best and brightest to our field and prepare the next generation of surgeons. Each year the McGill Faculty of Medicine honours its best teachers by nominating them to the Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence. On June 9, 2005 two surgeons were named to this very prestigious award, Dr. Sarkis Meterissian and Dr. David Fleischer. These surgeons are greatly commited to educational excellence and spend a substantial amount of their time developing and implementing novel educational methods. They have both brought innovative concepts to surgical education and to medical education in general that has had an impact not only within the McGill Faculty of medicine but nationally and internationally.

Dr. Sarkis Meterissian has made major contributions to surgical education in several areas. In January 1997, Dr. Meterissian was named Program Director of Surgical Oncology at McGill and helped the program to successfully obtain Royal College Accreditation in 2000. He remained in this position until June 2001 when he took over as Program Director for General Surgery. He was also involved in medical student education, and directed the ICM-C from 1998 to 2000. In March 2002, he was named as a Core Faculty member of the Center for Medical Education under the directorship of Dr. Peter McLeod. Dr. Meterissian was a Teaching Scholar in the Faculty of Medicine from 1998-1999. He joined the Faculty Development Advisory Committee in September 2003 and has successfully put together a number of workshops, most notably one on Teaching Technical and Procedural Skills. He won the Department of Surgery Best Teacher Award in 1996 and the Division of General Surgery Best Teacher Award in 2001 and 2002. In 2004, he was named to the American College of Surgeons Committee on Residency Education and will be participating actively in the October Clinical Congress. He has also been a Royal College Examiner since 2003 and a member of the Specialty Committee in General Surgery.

His educational research is in educational innovations and novel evaluation tools including the script concordance test to assess surgical critical thinking using experts as a reference group. As Program Director of General Surgery, Dr. Meterissian has incorporated games into the weekly Academic Half-Day and he has presented this work at the annual CAME meeting in 2005 in Saskatoon. He received a grant from the Association of Surgical Education in 2004 to study the applicability of the Script Concordance Test as a measure of intra-operative decision-making skills. This work will be presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the ASE. This research has allowed him to form collaborations with other groups interested in assessing critical thinking, including Université de Montréal and the Collège des Médecins. Dr. Meterissian has been made a member of the newly formed inter-university and inter-professional group on critical thinking under the directorship of Dr. Bernard Charlin.

Dr. Meterissian’s future projects will look at the Script Concordance Test in General Surgery and the evaluation of feedback between residents and staff.

In addition to his appointment to the McGill Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence, Dr. David Fleischer was also the recipient of the prestigious AFMC-John Ruedy Award for Innovation in Medical Education, awarded at the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada meeting in Saskatoon this spring. Dr. Fleischer is Associate Professor of Surgery at McGill, Co-Director of the Cedar’s Breast Center of the McGill University Health Center and Director of the McGill Molson Medical Informatics Project. As a clinician and teacher, Dr. Fleischer has been involved in undergraduate and graduate medical education for over twenty-five years. He has also been a proponent of and actively organized initiatives to further both inter-professional practice and education within academic and clinical settings. As Assistant Dean of Medical Informatics (1992-1997), Dr. Fleischer received the first of several grants from the Molson Foundation. He is currently the Director of the McGill Molson Informatics Project (1997-present). At the Centre, his team develops innovative applications that utilize informatics as a tool to further teaching and learning, including a multimedia-enhanced electronic curriculum for under-graduate medical students. This work has translated into national initiatives, including the National Digital Health Library and the AFMC Resource Group on Medical Informatics. Dr. Fleischer is an active proponent of communication, sharing, and cooperative development among healthcare teachers and is a leader in pan-
Canadian collaboration in the field of medical informatics.

Dr. Fleiszer's current projects include:

1. HealthLibrary.ca — a place where all Canadian medical teachers can deposit, find and share their best teaching material. This involves all 17 Canadian Medical Schools. We have a group of medical illustrators who have created about 8000 diagrams, animations and lectures mostly related to the basic sciences.


3. The case generator — software that allows a non-programmer to create on-line cases for undergraduate medical students — a patient encounter simulator with multimedia.

4. The AFMC Resource Group on Informatics — a national forum for discussion of all things related to the use of technology in medical teaching.

This was another very successful academic year for the Division of Surgical Research. Eleven degrees in Experimental Surgery were conferred by the university as follows:

- Mr. H. Y. Chen, MSc; Dr. G. Tzimas, MSc; Ms. N. Longo, MSc; Mr. O. Benhameid, MSc; Dr. G. Chan, MSc; Dr. S. Fraser, MSc; Ms. D. Stachura, MSc; Ms H. Ling, PhD; Ms R. Mortazavi, PhD; Dr. J. P. Lopez, PhD and Dr. S. Leclerc, PhD. Congratulations to all our graduates.

The showcase event of the year is of course the Fraser Gurd Research Day. This year, the Fraser Gurd Visiting Professor was Dr. Anthony Atala, Director of the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine and Chair of the Department of Urology at Wake Forest University. Those in attendance were fortunate to hear a stellar presentation on the state of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. This was a timely subject since McGill University, under the leadership of the Department of Surgery, is presently exploring the development of a program in Regenerative Medicine.

The role of the Division of Surgical Research continues to evolve. A needs analysis was recently completed and as a result the Division will begin to offer new services to the Department as early as autumn. I look forward to describe these forthcoming changes in a subsequent issue of The Square Knot.

One of two highlights of the academic year is the Collip Visiting Professorship in Innovation in Biomedical Research. This year we were very fortunate to have as our invited speaker John M. McPherson, Ph.D, Senior VP, R&D, Cell and Protein Therapeutics, Genzyme Corporation. Dr. McPherson gave an eloquent talk on Autologous chondrocyte transplantation: Lessons learned and future challenges. This event was co-sponsored by the Musculoskeletal Axis of the MUHC RI.
The Division of Urology at McGill University has recruited Dr. Junjian Chen as Assistant Professor to work in the McGill Urologic Oncology Research Laboratories at the MGH to study Oxidative Stress and Prostate Cancer Carcinogenesis. His recruitment was made possibly by the Prostate Cancer Centre of Excellence Endowment Fund held at the MGH.

Dr. Simon Chevalier has been appointed Director of the McGill Urology Research Laboratories effective January 1, 2005.

As the Chairman of the Workforce for International Relationships of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, Dr. Ray Chiu chaired a symposium on “Global Cardiothoracic Surgery, Opportunities and Challenges” in Tampa, Florida on January 24th, 2005. He was an invited Lecturer at the annual meeting of the Canadian Physiological Society at Mont Ste-Anne, Quebec on February 4th and spoke on Stem Cell Therapy for Myocardial Regeneration. On March 10th – 11th, he was invited by the National Institutes of Health of the United States to serve as a member of the Review Committee on “Specialized Center for Cell Based Therapy and Data and Coordinating Centers” which is to promote clinical application of the laboratory research of using stem cells to treat patients with myocardial infarction and heart failure. He had been invited to serve as a Medical Consultant for Medtronic-Genzyme Biotherapeutics Company which is undertaking multicentre clinical trials using skeletal myoblasts to treat patients with myocardial infarction, a concept which originated and studied since 1992 at the experimental surgical research laboratory located in the University Surgical Clinic of The Montreal General Hospital, MUHC.

David M. Culver, Chair of the MUHC Board of Directors, was inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame on May 12th. The CBHF celebrates the lifetime accomplishments of Canada’s most distinguished business leaders, past and present.

Haile Debas, MDCM’63, was honoured with the Abraham Flexner Award for Distinguished Service to Medical Education by the Association of American Medical Colleges. He is the Dean Emeritus of the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, and is also the Executive Director of the UCSF Global Health Sciences, which applies UCSF expertise in basic, clinical, social and policy sciences to the challenge of reducing the burden of disease in the world’s most vulnerable populations. Haile is widely recognized for contributions to the fields of physiology, biochemistry and gastro-intestinal research.

Dr. François Fassier, Chief of Staff at the Shriners, was guest lecturer at the POSNA 2004 one-day course in genetics and orthopedics. The title of his presentation was Surgical Management of Osteogenesis Imperfecta.

Dr. David Fleischer has been named to the 2005 Faculty Honour List for Education Excellence in recognition of his contributions to teaching in the Faculty of Medicine.

Congratulations to Dr. Gabriela Ghitulescu and Antonio Duarte on their marriage on July 10, 2005 in the Eastern Townships.

This year at the American Urological Association Annual Meeting in May 21-26, 2005, Dr. Peter Chan of the Division of Urology of the MUHC served as the Program Chair for the Annual Scientific Program Lecture Series of the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction. The theme of the lecture series was on “Spermatotoxicity”. Dr. Chan is the first Canadian urologist who holds this honorable position.

Dr. Runi Chattopadhy and her husband Jan are proud to announce the birth of their baby girl Maya born on Saturday, April 2nd, 32 minutes past midnight. Maya weighed 6 pounds 13 ounces. Congratulations!
Dr. Philip H. Gordon is cited in Marquis Who's Who in the World in the 2005 Edition. At the meeting of the Canadian Surgery Forum in Ottawa last September, he was the moderator of a Postgraduate Course entitled "Controversies in Colo-rectal Surgery." He also participated in a symposium on the "Surgical Management of Colo Rectal Cancer - The Pearls of Surgical Management of Rectal Cancer including TME."

Dr. Irwin Kuzmarov has been elected President of the Canadian Society for the Study of the Aging Male for the years 2005 and 2006. The Canadian Society for the Study of the Aging Male (CSSAM) is an association of physicians and allied health care professionals working together for the promotion of research, education, and increased awareness of the medical, sociological, psychological and physical changes in the aging male. The organization is part of the International Society for the Study of the Aging Male (ISSAM) formed in 1997 in England and has chapters all over the world. It also has its own journal. The first North American meeting of the Aging Male was held in Vancouver in 2005 and was a resounding success. Dr. Kuzmarov succeeds Dr. Jerald Bain, endocrinologist at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Jean-Martin Laberge was invited to participate in the 25th Brazilian Congress of Pediatric Surgery in Natal, Brazil, November 14-17, 2004. He gave a conference on Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment: An Update for Pediatric Surgeons and The Management of Congenital Lung Lesions. This was followed by several workshops and interactive sessions where he presented Hirschsprung's Disease: Evolution of Techniques and Management of Enterocolitis, Perspectives in Video-fetoscopy, and New Perspectives in the Treatment of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia.

Dr. Jean-Martin Laberge, Dr. Luong T. Nguyen and Dr. Kenneth S. Shaw contributed a chapter on Teratomas, Dermoids and other Soft Tissue Tumors in Pediatric Surgery textbook. The chapter can be found in Philadelphia, Pediatric Surgery, 4th edition, KW Ashcraft, GW Holcomb, JP Murphy (editors), Elsevier Saunders, Chapter 68.

Capt. Robert E. Mitchell, MD '47, has been honoured by the U.S. Navy with the establishment in May 2004 of the Robert E. Mitchell Foundation for Support of Prisoners of War Center. He was also honoured by the Society of U.S. Navy Flight Surgeons with the establishment in May 1998 of the Robert E. Mitchell Lifetime Achievement Award, and by the U.S. Navy with the Robert E. Mitchell Center for Repatriated Prisoners of War Studies, which was established in January 1998.

Dr. Pramod Puligandla was invited to present at the 3rd Annual Quebec Society of Intensivists in Ste-Anne de Beaupré, Quebec held on February 5-6, 2005. His talk was entitled The Management of Hyperglycemia in the PICU.

Dr. Baird Mallory Smith reports many changes from Stanford, California. These include: name [dropped "Smith" - now just Baird Mallory]; bachelor status [married Leah Allison Bartsch of Boston, MA]; and after ten years, locale [leaving garden and warmth for Portland, Maine - the California of the East]. There he plans to foment rebellion amongst a small band of displaced habitants and create new license plates that say "Live Free or Morte."

Dr. Sarkis Meterissian has been named to the Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence in recognition of his contributions to teaching in the Faculty of Medicine.

Dr. René St-Arnaud (Orthopedic Surgery) was promoted to Full Professor as of June 1, 2005.

Dr. Simon Tanguay has been appointed Head of the Urologic Oncology Section within the Division of Urology, McGill University. He was also invited as a guest speaker to the Annual Meeting of the Association Française d'Urologie in Paris in November 2004. The title of his presentation was Formation Médicale Continue: l'Exemple du Système Québécois.

Dr. Christo I. Tchervenkov was an invited Speaker and a Moderator at the International Heart School in Bergamo, Italy for the Course on Aortic Arch Reconstruction for Simple and Complex Congenital Heart Defects on June 1st and 2nd, 2004 where he gave 3 lectures entitled Surgery Using Antegrade Regional Cerebral Perfusion, Hypo-plastic Left Heart Syndrome: Biventricular Repair: When Can It Be Done, and Single Stage Repair for Complex Cardiac Lesions with Aortic Arch Obstruction. Christo also gave one Magistral Lecture entitled Surgery for Inter-rupted Aortic Arch: Lessons from North America. During the same trip to Italy, he was a Visiting Professor at the Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù in Vatican, Rome, Italy on June 8, 2004 and gave a lecture entitled Surgery for Inter-rupted Aortic Arch: Lessons from North America. During his visit to the Vatican, he and his family had the extraordinary privilege to have a private audience with the Pope John-Paul II. From July 19th to 23rd, 2004, Christo was the...
Chairman of the 5th meeting of the International Working Group for Mapping and Coding of Nomenclatures for Paediatric and Congenital Heart Disease, held in Nowy Zydroj, Mazurian Lake District, Poland. On October 23rd 2004, he was a Guest speaker at the Symposium on Defining Quality in Paediatric Cardiology and gave a talk entitled Aristotle Complexity Score for Pediatric Cardiac Surgery. This symposium was organized by the Western Canadian Children’s Heart Network at the Alberta Children’s Hospital.

From October 24th to 27th, 2004, Dr. Chervenkov was a Guest speaker at the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Annual Meeting in Calgary and gave 2 presentations entitled Systemic Pulmonary Shunt Versus RV-PA Conduit in the Stage I Norwood Palliation for Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, and interrupted Aortic Arch and Left Ventricular Outflow Tract Obstruction. From December 4th to 8th, 2004, he organized and chaired with Dr. Marie-Josée Béland the 6th meeting of the International Working Group for Mapping and Coding of Nomenclatures for Paediatric and Congenital Heart Disease at the Hotel Le Méridien Versailles, in Montreal. From February 11th to 15th, 2005, he was an invited Faculty at the 5th Annual International Symposium on Congenital Heart Disease held at the All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, USA, jointly sponsored by the University of South Florida Health Sciences Center where he gave 2 lectures entitled Surgery for Heterotaxy Syndromes, and The Single-Lung Fontan. Dr. Chervenkov recently founded the International Society for Nomenclature of Paediatric and Congenital Heart Disease (2005) and acts as a Founding Board Member, Vice-President and Secretary. He was also appointed Member of the Board of Trustees of the International Heart School of Bergamo, Italy (2005). He is the Chairman of the Program Committee of the Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society (2004). He is Vice-President & President-Elect for The Society of Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery “Aldo R. Castaneda.”

Achievements Residents and Fellows

Dr. Abdullah Al-Harthi and his wife Roya are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, a healthy baby girl named Ilyaza born on April 25th, 2005 in Oman.

Congratulations to Dr. Abdullah Al-Shaikhi [RS-General Surgery Resident] and his wife Rana who gave birth to their first child, Mohammed, born on November 26th, 2004 weighing 3.055 kg.

At the American Pediatric Surgical Association in Phoenix, Arizona from May 29 to June 1, 2005, Dr. Robert Baird presented The Role of Primary Laparotomy for Intestinal Perforation in Very Low Birth Weight Infants. The authors included Dr. Robert Baird, Dr. Dickens St-Vil, Dr. Jean-Martin Laberge, Dr. Pramod Puligandla from the Divisions of Pediatric General Surgery, Montreal Children's Hospital and Hôpital Ste-Justine.

Congratulations, Katherine (Kate) Anne Galli arrived safely May 26th at 12:33 p.m. (weighing 7lb 3 oz) to the great delight of her parents Dr. Shannon Fraser and Carlos Galli.
The Rea Brown Cup has become an annual tradition where, it appears, the residents always seem to get beat. Despite Dr. Shaw's advancing age, he still manages to keep the residents in line in the hockey rink. Better luck next year!
Welcome to the New Chief Residents

CARDIAC SURGERY
Program Director: DR. KEVIN LACHAPELLE
Dr. Kapil Sharma is a graduate of McGill University Medical School. He was the recipient of the Campbell-Keenan Memorial Prize for Surgery which is awarded to the medical student who achieves the highest clinical standing during surgical clerkship. He also spent a couple of years in the research laboratory working with Dr. Ray Chiu. Kapil started his Cardiac Surgery Residency training in 2000. After completion of his training, he will do a fellowship at Stanford University with Dr. Craig Miller and Dr. Marc Pelletier in heart failure and high-risk cardiac surgery.

GENERAL SURGERY
Program Director: DR. SARKIS METERISSIAN
Gabriel Chan is a graduate from the University of Western Ontario. He started his residency in July 2000. He completed 1-1/5 years of research with Dr. S. Meterissian and recently received his Masters. Gabe is interested in Surgical Oncology.

Dan Deckelbaum is a graduate from McGill. He completed an Internship at the University of Hawaii followed by a year of surgical residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital. He transferred to our Program in July 2003 as an R3. Dan is interested in pursuing a career in Trauma Surgery and Critical Care. He has already begun fulfilling his interests in International Health. In addition to surgery, Dan is an avid windsurfer, waterskier and scuba diver.

Mazen Hassana is a graduate from King Saud University in Saudi Arabia with Honors. He did 6-months clinical research with Dr. M. Wexler. Mazen is interested in Hepatobiliary Surgery and will complete a 2 year Fellowship at McGill under the direction of Dr. Metrakos.

Moishe Liberman is a graduate from McGill. He started his residency in July 2000. He completed 1-1/2 years of research with Dr. J. Sampalis and Dr. Mulder. Moishe is interested in pursuing a career in Thoracic Surgery and he will be obtaining his PhD.

LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY
Program Director: DR. GERALD FRIED
Dr. Allan Okrainec was raised in Gatineau, Quebec. Prior to medical school, his background was in sciences and music. He graduated from McGill Medical School in 2000 and went on to do his residency in General Surgery at McMaster University. Allan met his wife while at McGill and they have been married for five years. She is currently finishing medical school and will be starting her residency in Pediatrics at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto in July. In his spare time, Allan likes snowboarding, playing hockey and squash, and traveling. He also still enjoys playing the violin. Allan is excited to be coming back to McGill for his fellowship and is looking forward to catching up with old friends.

ORTHEPEDIC SURGERY
Program Director: DR. MICHAEL TANZER
Dr. Peter Bienkowski, originating from the sulfur mines of Wroclaw, Poland, this Maritimer is the current holder of three Guinness world records in the expulsion of intestinal gaseous matter. From the residents lounge of 12-East to the patios of Crescent Street, anyone in Pete’s vicinity for more than 3 minutes can attest to the world-class stench of his backside songs. It is however the little known records he holds for both frequency and ability to express on command that has brought him the most infamy amongst his ortho compatriots. Known as ‘Binky’ to staff who have difficulty pronouncing long words, Dr. Bienkowski has chosen next year to grace the Ottawa General with his malodorous self in his pursuit of sports orthopaedic excellence. The rum merchants of Montreal will miss him dearly.
Dr. Daniel Chivas, basically from the tough, tattooed streets of suburban Detroit, Dr. Dan 'Dude' Chivas made his way to Montreal and quickly got his Vibe on. Basically, Dan's mad skills in public speaking have earned him the 'Dan Chivas' award no less than twice. Basically, sleepless nights couldn't stop him from showing his dedication to early morning clinical care. Basically, Dan will pursue a total joint arthroplasty fellowship in Los Angeles at the end of his training.

Dr. Matthew Fouse was born in Toronto, raised in Texas, moved to Las Vegas, and educated in New Orleans. This peripatetic past is often blamed for his webbed feet, curly hair, and unusual speech pattern. Matt's Master's Degree in Tropical Medicine has permeated his orthopaedic training, allowing him to discover both femoral filariasis and the rare Dengue knee syndrome. His interests include spicy food and car insurance. Matt and his Québécoise bride and daughter will pursue sunshine and tropical arthroscopy in Southern California.

Dr. Ahmad Bin Nassar, an American posing as a doctor from Saudi Arabia, Ahmad has enjoyed his time in Montreal. He earned legendary orthopaedic resident status the night he had the person who paged him write an incident report incriminating themselves, and leave it for him to sign in the morning. As a third year resident, Dr. Bin Nassar has set the new record for trips out to the parking garage during working hours. He has best summed up his residency with the quote, "They used to be lights."

Dr. Jason Smith, no need to tell you his accolades, just ask him....Yes, he went to Princeton; yes, he played pro hockey; yes, he was in a movie. He's been voted "easiest resident to get along with" by fellow peers, junior residents and nursing staff for 4 years running. Yellow fever has followed him from Calgary and continues to plague him in Montreal. Dr. Smith has been the social coordinator during his residency. When asked about Club foot rounds, he gave directions to St. Laurent Street. Next stop for Dr. Smith is Birmingham, Alabama where he will complete a fellowship in sports medicine at the American Sports Medicine Institute.

Dr. Steve M. Walsh was born and raised in Sioux City, Iowa. There he learned the true value of hard work, gunplay, and taxidermy. After a brief stint as the "Unabomber", Steve finished his undergraduate and medical degrees at the University of Iowa. From there he began his orthopaedic residency at McGill University. He quickly grew fond of Montreal after discovering the abundance of squirrels and various other varmint, better known as "yummy critters" or "good eatin" that reside on Mont Royal. Steve has taken up several hobbies while completing his residency; surly contracture, turning his Chevy blazer into the first Suede tank, web casting his fighting skills with hobos on the mountain, and drinking until the capacity to speak evades him. After completing his residency, Steve is moving to Chicago, IL for a Fellowship in Arthroplasty. Overall there is one thing we have learned from Steve Walsh over the past five years, 'Squirrels do taste like chicken'.

**PEDIATRIC SURGERY**

Program Director: DR. JEAN-MARTIN LABERGE

Dr. Anne Aspirot received her Doctorate of Medicine degree at the University of Montreal in the year 2000 and also completed her General Surgery training at the University of Montreal. Ann is a trained classical pianist and classical ballet dancer. She enjoys all types of music and hiking. We are pleased to have Dr. Aspirot join our fellowship program and look forward to working with her.

**PLASTIC SURGERY**

Program Director: DR. H. BRUCE WILLIAMS

Dr. Bruce Lattyak received his Bachelor of Science in Biological Chemistry in 1990 from the University of Chicago. He completed his medical degree at the University of California, San Francisco in 1995 where he also did his General Surgery Internship and his residency in Otolaryngology. His Facial Plastic Surgery Fellowship training was done at the University of California, Davis. Dr. Lattyak was awarded the Sir Harold Delph Gillies Award by the AAFPRS for the best basic science paper by a Fellow. Dr. Lattyak was in private practice in Bermuda from 2001 – 2004 before beginning his training at McGill University. He is married to Leslie Lazar and they are expecting their first child in August 2005. Dr. Lattyak enjoys running, snowboarding, spear fishing, and lobster diving.

Dr. Pravin Reddy is a graduate of Albany Medical College in 1997 with the Dean's Commendation for Scholastic Excellence. He completed a Vascular Research Fellowship in 2000 and was the winner of a U.S. Surgical Research Grant for the study of Endovascular Models of Hypertension. In 2003, Dr. Reddy was Chief Resident in General Surgery at Georgetown University, Washington, DC. He then became Staff General Surgeon at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Alexandria, LA, and then...
> Staff General Surgeon at the Chinle Comprehensive Health Unit of the Navajo Nations, Chinle, Arizona. Dr. Reddy enjoys travel, photography, and arts.

**SURGICAL ONCOLOGY**

Program Director: DR. ROGER TABAH

Dr. Brent Zabalenko, a native of Manitoba, came to McGill in July 2003 to begin his fellowship in Surgical Oncology after having completed his residency in General Surgery at the University of Manitoba. While here, Brent quickly integrated in both the Departments of Surgery and Oncology and presented several papers at both national and international meetings. He worked closely with Drs. Louffti, Meterissian and Basik and also found time to work with Dr. Morag Park in developing micro-array analyses of breast cancer tissues and relating these to patient outcome. Brent plans to return to Winnipeg to practice at The Grace Hospital and assume an academic position in the Department of Surgery at the University of Manitoba where he hopes to continue the collaborative work he initiated at McGill. He is an enthusiastic and gifted surgeon who has a bright and promising future before him.

**UROLOGY**

Program Director: DR. SERGE CARRIER

Dr. Majid Al-Mandil graduated from King Saud University College of Medicine in 1998, then joined the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center in Riyadh as a resident in the Departments of Surgery and Urology. He is married with a daughter, his Princess Dafa. Majid will commence a fellowship in pediatric urology at McGill this July.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Otaibi graduated from King Faisal University Medical School in 1998 in Dammam, Saudi Arabia. He then joined the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center as a urology resident. He was sponsored by the same hospital and joined the Urology Program at McGill in July 2001. Mohammed will pursue fellowship training in uro-oncology, which is where his interest lies. Mohammed enjoys horseback riding, playing tennis, traveling and reading, especially history.

Dr. Jason Boman was born in Montreal. Except for a brief stopover in Newfoundland where he attended medical school, Jason has lived his whole life in Montreal. It was at Memorial University in St. John's where he first discovered he wanted to be a urologist and with only one year left to go, he can almost taste his dream. [Truth be told, he's been tasting it for the past two years with every cystoscopy he undertakes.] Jason is looking forward to a year of memorizing Campbell's Urology and spending whatever time he has left with his beautiful new bride, Shauna.

Dr. Tony Chen is excited to start his last year of residency. Tony went to medical school at McGill, and started his first three years of residency at Sherbrooke University. He looks forward to meeting everyone in the MUHC hospitals.

**VESSELARY SURGERY**

Program Director: DR. OREN STEINMETZ

Dr. Peter Midgley starts his 2-year vascular surgery fellowship in July. Peter comes to us from the Maritimes, grew up in Prince Edward Island and completed medical school and general surgery training at Dalhousie.

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**DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE?**

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<th>Dr. Zaid Rushdi Arekat</th>
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The postal addresses of these Surgical Alumni are no longer correct. If you can help, please contact the TSK office.
The Montreal General Hospital recently inaugurated three new operating rooms dedicated to Minimally Invasive Surgery. The 7.8 million dollar units were funded by donations from the MGH Foundation, the Cedars Cancer Institute, and the McConnell Foundation. "We now have probably one of the most advanced minimally invasive surgery set-ups in North America," said Dr. Gerald Fried, who is the Steinberg-Bernstein Chair and Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery at the MUHC. This will allow the MGH to increase both the scope and number of MIS surgeries it can perform. These include laparoscopic live donor nephrectomy and other nephrectomies, esophageal surgeries for reflux disease and esophageal dysfunction, surgery for colon cancer and inflammatory bowel disease, incisional hernia repairs, adrenalectomies, hysterectomies and oophorectomies, even radical prostatectomies and some other diagnostic procedures. This is all in addition to the traditional laparoscopic cholecystectomies and herniorrhaphies of the past.

The rooms — 50% larger than the old ones — also feature video-conferencing technology to allow surgeons to consult doctors at other hospitals.

Much of the equipment is ceiling-mounted, making it easier to move around and clearing the floor of potentially hazardous electrical cables, surgical nurse

Donna Stanbridge said. She said previously, much of the equipment was stored outside the operating room. "This process was inefficient and made it harder to ensure sterility of the surgical equipment and environment."

"The Massachusetts General Hospital has had success with operating rooms similar to those the MUHC just built at the Montreal General," Fried said. "The Boston hospital reduced the average length of minimally invasive operations. If that hospital's success is any indication, the Montreal General might be able to reduce waiting lists for surgery," he added.

About 500 minimally invasive operations are performed annually at the MGH. The new operating rooms are the first major step in a plan to redevelop the Montreal General, said Dr. Arthur T. Porter, Director-General and Chief Executive Officer of the MUHC.

Dr. Fried maintains that this project is the first major step in redeveloping the MGH as the Mountain Campus of the new MUHC.

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FOOTE, JOHN WILLIAM, MD, FRCSC
on April 26th, 2005 at the age of sixty-seven in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Born in New Haven, CT and raised in Montreal, he was Assistant Professor of Surgery at McGill University, and Chief of Urology at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, as well as being a staff urologist at the RVH. He was the son of the late Dr. William Rodgers Foote and is survived by his wife Jennifer, five children and nine grandchildren.

POLSON, J. STEWART, MD
passed away peacefully at the Cornwall Community Hospital on February 10th, 2005. A long-time practicing physician and teacher of the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University, he was eighty-five years old. He was the dear father of Dr. Herbert Polson and Dr. George Polson, both of Beaconsfield.
16th Annual Fraser Gurd Day
May 5, 2005

RESEARCH AWARD
(Oral Presentation)
First Prize, Mr. Reid Aikin
Second Prize, Dr. Mirko Gilardino
Third Prize, Dr. Ehab Elzayat
(Poster Presentation)
First Prize, Dr. Fabio Cury
Second Prize, Dr. Sebastian Demyttenaere

RESIDENT/FELLOW TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Cardiac Surgery Dr. Hilal Al-Sabti
General Surgery Dr. Abdullah Al-Harthy
Orthopaedic Surgery Dr. Nicolas Noiseau
Plastic Surgery Dr. Wendy Parker
Urology [tie] Dr. Saleh Binsaleh & Dr. Kevin Zorn

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Outstanding Resident Teacher:
Dr. John Theodoropoulos
Outstanding Post-Graduate Education Teacher:
Dr. Barry Stein

THE E.D. MONAGHAN
PRINCIPLES OF SURGERY AWARD
Dr. Borhan Al-Atassi

THE KATHERINE ROLPH AWARD
Dr. Olga Huk

Visiting Professor Dr. Anthony Atala

Mrs. Jackie Scott and Dr. Mostafa Elhilali announced that through a generous donation from Dr. Lloyd D. MacLean and matching funds from the Department of Surgery and the RVH Foundation, an endowed fund was created for an annual scholarship in the name of Dr. MacLean of $15,000 annually. This is for a competition for research or education purposes by residents or staff of the Department of Surgery at large.
Highlights

Research Awards for Oral & Poster Presentations

Dr. Barry Stein, Postgraduate Teaching Award

Dr. Borhan Al-Atassi, E.D. Monaghan Principles of Surgery Award

Dr. Olga Huk, The Katherine Rolph Award

Dr. Wendy Parker, Plastic Surgery Resident Teaching Excellence Award
Visiting Professors

10th ANNUAL H. ROYCE ROBERTSON VISITING PROFESSOR
January 26-27, 2005

Dr. Peter O'Brien was this year’s H. Royce Robertson Visiting Professor. He is currently the Chief of Orthopedic Trauma at the University of British Columbia. Dr. O'Brien gave a special lecture on the Wednesday at the MGH entitled Orthopaedic Management in the Multiply Injured Patient followed by academic program presentations. The following day at Surgical Grand Rounds, he spoke on Trauma Care in British Columbia. Dr. O'Brien has been instrumental in the establishment of the Vancouver General Hospital as a respected trauma center, and we were honored to have him share his experience with us.

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THIRD ANNUAL COLLIP VISITING PROFESSOR
IN INNOVATION IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

On March 21st, 2005, the McGill Division of Surgical Research held its annual Collip Visiting Professorship. This year, it was John M. McPherson, Ph.D. who is Senior Vice President of Research and Development, Cell and Protein Therapeutics at Genzyme Corporation. Dr. McPherson gave a lecture at the MGH entitled Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation: Lessons Learned and Future Challenges followed by a reception.

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FIRST ANNUAL VASCULAR VISITING PROFESSORSHIP
March 31, 2005

Dr. K. Wayne Johnston, Professor of Surgery and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Toronto and The R. Fraser Elliott Chair in Vascular Surgery, was the first Vascular Visiting Professor to the McGill Division of Vascular Surgery. Dr. Johnston gave a talk at Grand Rounds entitled The Influence of Industry on Clinical Publications: An Ex-Editor's Perspective. This was followed by rounds with vascular fellows and residents.

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STIKEMAN VISITING PROFESSOR
May 12, 2005

Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood, Jr., Professor of Surgery and Senior Associate Vice-Chancellor (Cardiovascular Diseases), Health Sciences Division, Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, was the 38th Stikeman Visiting Professor to the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at McGill University.

The day’s events began with Grand Rounds in the Osler Amphitheatre of the MGH where Dr. Chitwood spoke on Advanced Technology in Valve Surgery: Robotics and Video Assistance. This was followed by laboratory and clinical research presentations. A Mini-Symposium entitled “Cardiac Surgery Skills and Robotic Surgery” then took place. The speakers were Dr. Richard Novick [University of Western Ontario], Dr. Victor Chu [McMaster University], and Dr. Michel Pellerin [Cardiology Institute of Montreal]. This was followed by a Panel Discussion which included all three including Dr. Chitwood. Following lunch, the afternoon session consisted of presentations by the residents and alumni [Dr. Garrett Walsh, Dr. James Dutton, Dr. Ray Chiu].

The annual banquet was held that evening at the University Club in honor of the Visiting Professor and the graduating residents – Dr. Hilal Al-Sabti and Dr. Derek MacDonald.

We were very pleased to welcome Dr. Chitwood, an outstanding clinician and authority in minimally invasive and robotic cardiac surgery, as the 2005 Stikeman Visiting Professor along with the alumni and friends who attended this special event.

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Traditional wisdom can be long on tradition and short on wisdom.
– Warren Buffett
Transplantation: An Update

The Royal Victoria Hospital, McGill University Health Center has a rich history in liver and kidney transplantation. In fact, the Royal Victoria Hospital was the first center to perform a kidney transplant in the British Commonwealth. Since the early 1990s, our program has been innovated in several areas of transplantation. Most notably, we have published on the use of preventive protocols after liver transplantation for hepatitis B, the use of older donor in liver and renal transplantation protocols that maximize renal transplantation, and expanding the indications for liver transplantation for large primary hepatocellular carcinomas.

Our success for liver transplantation, considering the advanced age of our recipients, the large number of liver cancers, and the severity of illness in our liver recipients is 85% at 1 year and 72% at 5 years. In the renal transplantation program, we have increased the use of older cadaveric donors (more than 50% of our cadaveric renal donors are older than 55 years of age compared to 18% nationally). Despite that, our renal allograft transplant survival is 92% at 1 year and 82% at 5 years.

Globally, close to 3,000 organ transplants have been performed to date of which 2,200 account for kidney transplants, 500 liver transplants, 350 heart transplants and 120 pancreases, kidney/pancreas transplants. Since the year 2000, we have performed an average of 70 kidneys, 40 livers, 15 hearts and 20 pancreases, kidney/pancreas transplants per year.

In addition to clinical activity, the program maintains an active basic science research lab in the areas of B&T cell immunology, xenotransplantation, ischemia reperfusion injury, islet cell transplantation and finally tolerance induction.

In August 2003, I was appointed the position of Director of Transplantation where I was selected to lead the transplant team to new-fangled academic goals. With that being said, McGill University has recently been acknowledged for having the most papers accepted for presentation from one Canadian University at the American Transplant Congress in Seattle, Washington; a meeting that has international recognition.

Four years ago, the Transplant Program created a Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery Fellowship. Our first two fellows have completed their training and returned to their respective home countries to start their own practices. Currently, we have recruited three new fellows Dr. Peter Horton from Oxford, England, Dr. John Martinie who joins us from Brown University, and Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury who is a local McGill University graduate.

Together our team of physicians have been very productive academically. We have had more than 80 publications in respected journals such as: Hepatology, Annals of Surgery, Transplantation, and Liver Transplantation. We have made important contributions in the areas of management of hepatitis B, liver cancer, immunosuppression and kidney function. We have also been very actively pursuing funding from many granting agencies across Quebec and Canada.

I am proud to say that our program has made its mark on an international level, and will continue to improve in the future. It is thanks to the individuals that are part of this team and of course our predecessors that we owe this optimism. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the patients who have been so generous by offering donations to the program, namely the Avrith family, the Cohen family, and the Dolgin family.

The future is bright and I hope to report soon on other exciting news from the transplant team! •

Jean I. Tchervenkov, MD
Director of Transplantation
Trauma and injury represent the number one cause of death for all Canadians between the ages of 1 and 45. Injury represents the number one cause of years of life lost (YLL) and the number one cause of all disability adjusted life years (DALYs) for all Canadians. The impact is even more extreme in the rest of the world.

These statistics come from the World Health Organization and underline the public health impact that trauma and injury represent.

There has been and continues to be a strong tradition of injury care at the MUHC hospitals which reflects an intense dedication to this public health issue in our community and well beyond. Physicians in the MUHC community have been very involved in the evolution of trauma care in this province (most notably Drs. David Mulder and Rea Brown). Spanning the inception of a regionalized trauma system and designation of the Montreal General Hospital, as one of only four Tertiary Trauma Centres in the province, to the present. The impact in terms of vastly improved patient outcomes over this time period is remarkable and well documented in the Trauma Registry as has been published.

The contributions of Dr. Suneel Khetarpal, one of the few fellowship trained trauma surgeons, have been instrumental in maintaining and advancing the program over the past few years. He had been attracted back to Canada from the US. It is sad to note that he will be returning to the US to continue his career, but his impact on the program will be felt for many years to come.

It is with tremendous satisfaction that, despite the recent difficulties in maintaining the trauma service, we are now looking at an optimistic future.

There are several key changes that are ongoing which allow us to continue to mature the trauma program into a truly world class centre (many of which were instigated by the previous Director, Dr. David Evans):

- The development of an appropriate administrative infrastructure – notably positions as Administrative Program Coordinator (Lisa Connell), Clinical Nurse Specialist (Cathlyn Robinson), SAAQ liaison nurses (Josée Maurice and Chantal Ranallo), trauma registry personnel, administra-

tive assistant (Giovanna Agozzino) and the return shortly of Catarina Stalteri from maternity leave. The proposed hiring of a case manager, research coordinator, quality improvement manager, etc. will continue this maturation.

- These positions allow the development of an expanded program to fulfill our responsibilities as a Tertiary Centre — continuing to establish leadership in the Provincial trauma infrastructure, an office of Life Support Training and Education, an Injury Prevention Program, clinical and basic science research programs in shock and resuscitation, an Office of International Surgery, a community outreach program, etc. All of which are beginning to flourish. (Many research presentations and invited lectureships, a re-invigorated ATLS program, many regional and international educational initiatives, etc.)

- The imminent hiring of two new surgeons to the program and one future recruit from the General Surgery program who is off to a Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania to return to us in the summer of 2007 (Jose Pascual).

- The establishment of a Trauma Team Leader program – an attending physician (Emergency physician, surgeon, or anaesthetist) whose sole clinical responsibility over a 24-hour shift is to respond to trauma system activations. A trauma and emergency general surgery service staffed by a general surgeon attending on a weekly rotation. This meets Canadian standards of care for trauma as established by the Trauma Association of Canada. This high standard of care for the emergency surgical patient ensures a very high quality of care of which we are very proud.

The program is only increasing in its clinical burden with approximately 9,000 trauma visits per year and 1,500 trauma admissions per year.

The evolving maturation of the trauma program will be very exciting as we continue the rich tradition of injury care at McGill. I feel personally very privileged to be following in the footsteps of those who have come before me and look forward to very interesting and exciting times ahead. It is only through the amazing dedication of many members of the McGill community, clinical and administrative, that we are able to continue this program and to all of you owe a large debt of gratitude.

I encourage members of the McGill surgical community to look for and support future fundraising activities of this growing program.
Tanzania represents one of the poorest nations in Africa with an extreme shortage of trained surgeons. In an environment where trauma and obstetric maternal mortality represent two of the most common causes of death and disability, it is obvious that the stage is set for personal disaster after disaster on a scale that is difficult to imagine.

Surgical Education in East Africa

The Canadian Network for International Surgery (CNIS) is an NGO headed by Dr. Ron Lett which has focused its work of the past ten years on helping to address the above problem in many nations in East Africa. The CNIS is involved in several skills training programs (Essential Surgical Skills Course and Trauma Team Training Course). The main focus is to train the trainers, the local surgeons, to run these skills course independently and embedded in their training programs (for GP’s, surgeons, and nurses).

I have had the privilege of working with the CNIS on several occasions in the past, but most exciting was the recent collaboration between the newly created Office of International Surgery in the MUHC Trauma Program and the CNIS in a new expansion into Tanzania with our Tanzanian Colleagues Drs. Lawrence Museru and Victoria Munthali at the Muhimbili University Centre and Orthopedic Institute.

Two senior surgical residents, Dan Deckelbaum and Simon Bergman, participated in the project and did a tremendous job with an amazing contribution. We were able to establish a trauma registry database and train 15 nurses as data collectors and establish the Injury Control Centre of Tanzania under the leadership of Victoria Munthali. We also taught the first Trauma Team Training Course in Tanzania as well as evaluate the ongoing Essential Surgical Skills Courses which we introduced the year previous and are now running independently. All in a two-week span.

To date there have been 30 new patient data entries into the trauma registry per day since March 1. Preliminary analysis of the data is to start this June and we are very excited regarding the potential power of this epidemiologic tool in advancing knowledge regarding the importance of surgical diseases and surgical skills in any health system.

We look forward towards a continuously expanding role in East Africa in the domain of surgical education and injury prevention through the Office of International Surgery. I feel very strongly about the role that McGill should be playing on an international level to establish a strong Canadian presence in the development of surgical education. The energy and enthusiasm of the surgical trainees for these initiatives is palpable and enabling this form of international work and responsibility is both rewarding and important. ☺
19th Annual Eugene Rogala Visiting Professor in Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery, October 21-22, 2004—Dr. Alvin H. Crawford

McGill Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Staff Members with Dr. Alvin H. Crawford (Visiting Professor)

Were You There?
RVH, 1980

Scientists from the RAND Corporation have created this model to illustrate how a "home computer" could look like in the year 2004. "However the needed technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but 50 years from now scientific progress is expected to solve these problems. With teletype interface and the Fortran language, the computer will be easy to use."
We can't do it without you!

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McGILL SURGERY ALUMNI & FRIENDS
Contributions of $50.00 are appreciated in ensuring the continued publication of "The Square Knot" and supporting McGill Surgery Alumni activities. Please make cheque payable to the McGill Department of Surgery and forward to Maria Bikas, McGill Surgery Alumni & Friends, The Montreal General Hospital, 1650 Cedar Avenue, Room: L9-420, Montreal (Quebec) Canada H3G 1A4 Telephone: (514) 934-1934, ext.: 42028 Fax: (514) 934-8418.

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