

THE SQUARE

KNOT

May 28, 2007, would be another typical day for the Royal Victoria Hospital's Multi-organ Transplant Program. The night before, a team of MUHC surgeons returned from a procurement at a nearby hospital, retrieving organs from a young male donor. The sun rose on three new transplant recipients. A woman with end stage cirrhosis received a liver, a diabetic man from Manitoba with a functioning kidney transplant would get a pancreas to eliminate his need for insulin and

The MUHC Multi-Organ Transplant Program: 50 years of breaking new ground

By Steven Paraskevas, M.D., Ph.D.

a young woman would receive her third kidney transplant, her 15-year medical history reflecting the evolution of the program at the Royal Victoria Hospital in the recent past. Their individual struggles against organ failure, and the auspicious date, were cause to reflect on the changes witnessed in the practice of organ transplantation as well as its history in this hospital, which next year will celebrate a half-century of progress and accomplishment in the field.

(Please see *Transplant* on page 10)



The 'Purple' Surgical Service (Solid Organ Transplantation/Hepatobiliary Surgery), 2007.
 Front row (L to R): Marylise Boutros, Teodora Kandeve, Reza Tavana, Soon Hyang Park, Shuqing Liu.
 Back row: Mazen Hassanain, Peter Metrakos, Jeffrey Barkun, Jean Tchervenkov, Steven Paraskevas, Gabriel Chan.

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

NEWSLETTER

McGILL UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2007

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Letters to The Editor

Dear Editor,

Last week I met with Dr. Gao in Shanghai. It was really really wonderful. He and some of the other doctors who work

with him took me on a tour of the hospital, including the ICU ward which was really interesting. After we had a delicious

meal. While the hospital seemed quite modern and the facility comparable to Canadian hospitals, the nurse to patient ratio in the ICU was far lower than in Canadian hospitals (as I understand it). We also had some really interesting conversations about the health care system in China, especially about the access to care that many Chinese people have, and the structure of the health care system, in terms of primary and tertiary care centers. I learned so much, and had a wonderful time. Once again, thank you so much for putting me in touch with Dr. Gao.

Emily Austin M.Sc.
(Surgical Research)

Editor's Note:

Ms. Austin touring east Asia was a graduate student of **Dr. Lawrence Rosenberg** at McGill, and will be studying medicine at Queens University. **Dr. ChengXin Gao**, who is the Chief of Thoracic Surgery at Shanghai Chest Hospital, was an exchange scholar from China to McGill in 1984.

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Dear Editor,

A note to let you know that after forty years of answering phones at night I retired from clinical practice August 2005. That was about fifteen months earlier than I had planned (once I seriously contemplated retirement) due to what I thought was complete burn out. Wiser heads prevailed and a complete medical check found hyperthyroidism secondary to a thyroiditis. While chemically normal in a few weeks it took about a year to be clinically better. The message is: if you

think you are burned out have medical colleagues check you; you may need more than a break. However, I have failed retirement and much like the Board exams they are not going to let me try again for another couple of years. Alleged friends hooked me up with the Math and Science Department of the North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) and I have been having a lot of fun teaching microbiology and pathology to nursing, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy and pre-medical students. Surprisingly it was not much of a "ramp up" from clinical surgery though the Chairman has noted that I tend to teach a more applied course than they have had in the past; something that he thinks is good given who the students are. I will have to stop that July 1, 2008 when I become the District Governor (DG) of Rotary International's third largest district in the world (N. Dakota, northern half of Minnesota, some of Wisconsin around Superior and some of Northern Ontario). My successor for the courses has already been chosen; however, the Chairman has ideas of incorporating me into the nanotechnology work when I step down as DG on June 30, 2009. NDSCS has been a leader in nanotechnology technologist training partnering with North Dakota State University nanotechnology engineering. We will see when the time comes as I still have all the novels and non medical books purchased while in clinical practice when there was never time to read them.

I noticed **Charlotte Schofield Jones'** picture in the Fall 2006 edition of *The Square Knot*. I have lost track of her so if you have her address please send her mine and ask her to reestablish contact. Thanks.

Robert T. Chambers, MD

Editor's Note:

Dr. "Tully" Chambers did his residency in General Surgery at MGH in the 1970s.

Dear Editor,

My name is **Michael Chin-A-Loy M.D.** I studied Oncology Surgery under **Dr. Shibata** at RVH and **Dr. Margolese** at Jewish General 1983-1984 as a Clinical Fellow. Pleased to let you know that I am now Head of surgical oncology at the Cancer society of Maracay, Aragua, Venezuela.

I kept in touch with Dr. Shibata, but haven't done so for about 3 years now. I was told that **Antoine Loutfi** is now head of the Oncology Day Centre at RVH. Please give him my regards; we worked together for a while. I referred a Venezuelan patient with thyroid cancer who is now living in Montreal to him recently.

My E mail is: chinaloy@cantv.net

Best regards,
Michael Chin-A-Loy M.D.

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Dear Editor,

I am responding to the fall issue of *The Square Knot* in which I saw that I'm on the "missing list". Actually, I'm still in PEI, but retired from surgical practice and I would like you to add me to your subscriber's list.

My years at "the Vic" were the best of my surgical life and I'm a proud alumnus of the Royal Victoria Hospital!

Many thanks,
G. Tom Cottreau, MD

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Dear Editor,

Life is interesting and exciting here in Oxford. Some contacts remain with North America and the American College of Surgeons.

The Square Knot continues to be a terrific publication and I look forward to receiving it on a regular basis.

With warm personal regards,
Jonathan Meakins, MD. PhD



(Please see **Letters** on page 12)



Editor's Note

By Ray C.J. Chiu, M.D., Ph.D.

We have often suggested that the mission of *The Square Knot* is to inform, and to enhance our *esprit de corps*. But it may also serve another goal, namely to provide a series of mini-Archives for the McGill University Department of Surgery. In the "Summer 2006" issue, **Prof. Robin Poole**, the founder of the Joint Diseases Laboratory at Shriners Hospital, described the history and accomplishments of this renowned laboratory. In the current issue, **Dr. Steven Paraskevas** nicely reviews the pioneering development of organ transplantation service at McGill. Perhaps documenting such legacies for us and for those who will follow us in the years to come may contribute to the pride of being associated with such a Department.

This publication is funded by the McGill Department of Surgery Alumni Association, which depends on the voluntary contributions of our readers worldwide. Attached with this

issue you will find a letter of solicitation for your generous donations, so that we can continue our effort to nurture our collegiality and share our precious memories. For this publication to effectively play such a role, your contributions and feed-back would be most helpful.

Last but not least, it is with deep gratitude and sorrow that we bid farewell to **Mrs. Emma Lisi** as she leaves her duties as Assistant Editor of this publication to focus on her other responsibilities. She was a most capable assistant for the previous editor, **Dr. Ed Monaghan** since 1994, and was the person who persuaded me to succeed retiring Dr. Monaghan in 2006. I am grateful for her valuable help in the past year, and for her kind advice to her successor, **Mrs. Minh Duong**, during this transitional period. ♦

Welcome Aboard



Dr. Jacques Lapointe has been recruited as an Assistant Professor of Urology in April 2006. He had obtained his M.D. and Ph.D. from Laval University and completed his postdoctoral training at Stanford University in California. Using the microarray technology, he identified clinically-relevant molecular subtypes of prostate cancer. Now at McGill, Dr. Lapointe's research is focused on molecular profiling to address the heterogeneity of prostate cancer in relation with clinical outcome. His recruitment was made possible by the Prostate Cancer Centre of Excellence Endowment Fund held at the MGH.

Dr. Paul Martineau will join the staff of Orthopaedic Surgery at the MUHC in September 2007. Dr. Martineau trained at McGill (M.D. 2000), completing his residency in 2005. He went on to two years of fellowship: in Shoulder, Sport Medicine and Arthroscopic Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation (2005-06) and in Upper Extremity, Hand and Microsurgery at the University of Washington (2006-07).

Dr. Moreno Morelli joins the Orthopaedic Surgery staff at St. Mary's Hospital as of July 1, 2007. Dr. Morelli is a graduate of the Université de Montréal residency program. He

completed two years of fellowship in Sports Medicine, namely at the University of Ottawa in 2000-01 and at the University of Toronto 2001-02, then was on staff at the Cambridge Memorial Hospital in Cambridge, Ontario.

Dr. Wes Kassouf was recruited as an Assistant Professor of Urology (Montreal General Hospital) on July 1, 2006. Upon completing his residency training in Urology at McGill, Dr. Kassouf did a three-year fellowship in Urologic Oncology at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. The fellowship consisted of one year of clinical training and two years of research focusing on targeted therapy for bladder cancer. In parallel, he also completed a two-year diploma in the Physician Scientist Training Program at the University of Texas-Houston. Dr. Kassouf is expected to develop the clinical and translational research program in bladder cancer at McGill.

Dr. Karl Schwarz joins the Division of Plastic Surgery as of July 1, 2007. He will be based at the MUHC. A Canadian, Dr. Schwarz obtained his M.D. from George Washington University (1999) and completed his residency in Plastic Surgery at the Georgetown University Hospital in Washington. His major interest is in breast reconstruction. ♦

Dr. **Dennis Bobyn** has been promoted to Full Professor of Surgery in the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, effective May 1, 2007.

KUDOS !!

Dr. Peter Chan is the recipient of the FRSQ Junior 2 Award. His research will focus on the "Impact of cancer and its treatment on male reproductive health".

With Co-editors **Dr. Charles Bridges** of the University of Pennsylvania and **Dr. Keith Horvath** at the NIH, **Dr. Ray Chiu** published his latest book entitled "Myocardial Laser Revascularization", his seventh book in experimental and clinical cardiac surgery.

Dr. Benoit deVarennes was a Guest Faculty at the Society of Cardiac Surgeons (SCS) meeting in Pamplona, Spain on June 21st, 2007. He spoke on *Posterior Leaflet Advancement Plasty*.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Farmer was appointed at January 1, 2007 as Director of Pediatric Surgical Services at the



MUHC – Montreal Children's Hospital. He takes over from **Dr. Bruce Williams** who has dedicated many

years of service as Surgeon-in-Chief at the Children's. The Board of Directors of the MUHC has approved the creation of a Department of Pediatric Surgery at the MCH with the appointment of Dr. Farmer as its Chief. Dr. Farmer will be the first holder of the Dorothy Williams Chair in Pediatric Surgery. The Chair is named in memory of Dr. H. Bruce Williams' late wife.

Dr. Paola Fata takes over from **Dr. Sarkis Meterissian** as Director of the

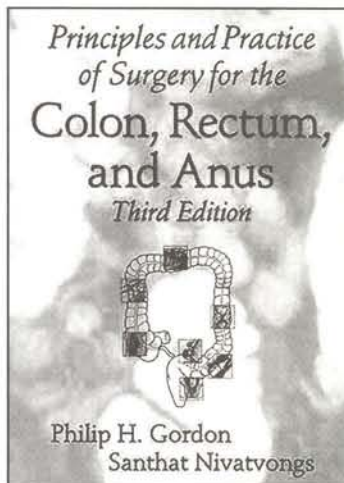
Residency Program in General Surgery as of June 1, 2007.

Dr. Lorenzo Ferri, at the American Association for Thoracic Surgery received the 2007 Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education Grant, to study "Mechanisms of Esophageal Cancer Metastases: The Role of Adhesion Molecules on the Migratory Ability of Esophageal Cancer Cells".



Dr. Saul Frenkiel, Chairman, Department of Otolaryngology, McGill University was recently elected President of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, which has over 600 members across Canada. He will be convening the next Annual Scientific Meeting of this Society to take place in Montreal in May 2007.

Dr. Philip Gordon has been named to the Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence 2007. In collaboration with his co-author Dr. Santhat Nivatvongs of the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Gordon recently published the 3rd edition of the textbook *Principles and Practice of Surgery for the Colon, Rectum, and Anus*. This 1,300 page book has received excellent review, suggesting it is "...likely to become the standard in the personal medical libraries of colorectal surgeons".



Dr Edward Harvey was elected to the Board of Directors of the Orthopedic Trauma Association. He and fellow researchers (including **Drs Berry** and **Reindl**) won awards this year including the Edwin G Bovill, Jr., MD, Memorial Lecture Award from the Orthopaedic Trauma Association as best research paper. This was titled "A Multicenter Randomized Control Trial of Non-Operative and Operative Treatment of Displaced Clavicle Shaft Fractures." Dr Harvey with **Drs Henderson, Hacking, Vingallore** and **Komorova** also received the Carroll A. Laurin Research Award from the Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation for work entitled "Microtexturing of allograft to enhance fracture healing". This work is based on work performed at the J.T.N. Wong Labs for Bone Engineering at the Genomics Centre where Dr Harvey is co-director.



Dr Wes Kassouf is the recipient of the FRSQ Junior 1 Award. As well, he was awarded the Canadian Urological Association Scholarship and the first prize in translational research project entitled "VEGF modulation as a predictor for therapeutic efficacy of gefitinib in bladder cancer" at the Quebec Urological Association annual meeting.



Drs. Jean-Martin Laberge and **Louise Caouette-Laberge** on March 28 became proud grandparents of a beautiful baby girl, Florence. This is the first grandchild for the Laberges. Congratulations to the parents Caroline and Louis-Gabriel as well as the entire family.



► **Dr. Lucie Lessard** was appointed Director of the Division of Plastic Surgery at the MUHC and McGill effective February 1, 2007, taking over from **Dr. Bruce Williams** who fulfilled the role of Interim Chief since 2004.



Dr. Lucie Lessard

Ms. Rita Mete retired in April from her position as Executive Secretary in Nursing - Surgical Mission where she worked under Associate Directors **Suzanne Lanctôt** and **Lucie Thomas**. Rita was honoured at a reception on April 25 in recognition of her able and faithful service. During her 36 years at the RVH Rita made many friends and served in many areas, namely in Surgery as secretary to **Dr. Jonathan L. Meakins**, in Endocrinology and with Gynecology Nursing.



Left to right: Lucie Thomas, Rita Mete, Suzanne Lanctôt

Dr. Sarkis Meterissian has been named Associate Dean, Post-Graduate Medical Education effective June 1, 2007, replacing Dr. Jean-Pierre Farmer. Also Dr. Meterissian was one of four recipients to receive the Association for Surgical Education Outstanding Teacher Award, the first time in more than ten years that an individual from the MUHC has received this honour.

Robin Poole PhD, DSc, Professor Emeritus, Department of Surgery, McGill University and Scientific Director Emeritus, Canadian Arthritis Network, received the Lifetime Achievement Award of The Osteoarthritis Research Society International for his contributions to osteoarthritis research, on December 7th in Prague, Czech Republic.

Dr. Oren Steinmetz's appointment as Director of Vascular Surgery at the MUHC and McGill has been formalized, following an external review of the division's activities. He has been also awarded the Lloyd D. MacLean Surgical Scholarship for 2007. The scholarship will help fund a mini fellowship in peripheral endovascular interventions with **Dr. Marc Bosiers** in Belgium who is a vascular surgeon and well known innovator in percutaneous endovascular treatments for carotid artery and lower extremity peripheral vascular disease. This is only the second time this scholarship is awarded. It was inaugurated in 2005 with a generous gift from **Dr. Lloyd MacLean**, past Chair of Surgery. Dr. Steinmetz also obtained a Phyllis and Allan Aitken Fellowship Award.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONGRATS

Residents, Fellows and Medical Research Students

Dr. Turki Albacker (R4 – CardiacSurg) submitted his Master of Science thesis entitled "High dose insulin therapy in coronary artery bypass grafting" with **Dr. Kevin Lachapel** as the supervisor. His works had been presented at the meetings

of The Canadian Cardiovascular Society in Vancouver October 2006, The American Heart Association in Chicago November 2006, and The Society of Thoracic Surgeon in San Diego in January 2007.

The Research Institute of the Montreal Children's Hospital hosted its Annual Research Day on May 30, 2007. **Dr. Ann Aspirot** presented "Cholestasis associated with small bowel atresia: Do we always need to investigate?". Primary supervisor for this paper was **Dr. Jean-Martin Laberge**. After her Fellowship at McGill, Dr. Aspirot has been granted a one-year GI Motility Fellowship at Columbus Children's Hospital. Upon completion she will take on a position as pediatric surgeon at Hôpital Sainte-Justine. We congratulate her and wish her much success.

Dr. Simon Bergman (R5 – Gen Surg) and Rebecca Sohmer were engaged on Sunday, December 3rd, 2006 after a year of courtship. Best wishes for the happy couple!



Congratulations also to **Dr. Ali Hazarati** (R3 – Gen Surg) and Dr. Niusha Tafreshi who recently got married on December 21, 2006.



Dr. Ali Hazarati and Dr. Niusha Tafreshi

► **Dr. Mirko Gilardino** (R5 – Plastic Surg) won the First Prize at the Senior Residents American Meeting with a paper entitled *“Transverse Cervical Vessels as Recipient for difficult Head and Neck reconstruction”*. This is based on anatomical dissection of cadavers done at the McGill Anatomy Laboratory, and in collaboration with **Dr. Dionysopoulos** at the Jewish General Hospital for part of the patient series. This paper also won a prize at the Fraser Gurd Day presentation.



Dr. Wael Hanna (R2-Gen Surg) presented a very well received paper entitled *“Traumatic Diaphragmatic Injury: The Influence of Associated Injuries on Mortality”* at the annual meeting of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery this past May in Washington DC. The co-authors were **Drs. Lorenzo Ferri** and **David Mulder**.

Dr. Jamie Libman (fellow/MSc student), **Mr. Bhimal Bindi** (Med student) and **Ms Luula Kikkonen** (Grad student) received prizes at the 17th Urology Annual Research Day for their excellent research presentations on April 25, 2007.

Vascular surgery Fellow **Dr. Peter Midgley** presented an abstract *“Blunt thoracic aortic injury: A single institution comparison of open and endovascular management”* at the 19th International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy (ISET) in Hollywood, Florida in January. He won first prize for the top rated abstract presented this year’s meeting out of 78 submissions. Co-authors of this paper are **Oren Steinmetz, Kent MacKenzie, Marc Corriveau, Daniel Obrand, Cherie Abraham** and **Paola Fata**.



Dr. Gerry Polyhronopoulos and his wife Polymnia are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Vasilia born on Thursday February 15 at 3:43 PM weighing 5 lbs. 11 oz. Congratulations!

Ms. Marie-Helene Auclair (McGill Med 1 student) was the winner of the 2006 McGill University “Merk, Sharp and Dohme Award in Therapeutics for her presentation entitled *“Bone Marrow stromal cells for myocardial regeneration: Feasibility of a universal donor cell”*. She was a summer research student at cardiac surgery research lab of **Drs. Dominique Shum-Tim** and **Ray Chiu** at the MUHC Research Institute. Dr. Shum-Tim also received Dean’s award for excellence in research in this laboratory.



Mr. Yin Ge (McGill Med 1 student) also did summer research at the same cardiac surgery research lab, and won a national competition for *Have a Heart Bursary* from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society to attend its 2006 annual congress at Vancouver. He was then awarded, following an international competition, a Summer Intern Scholarship in Cardiothoracic Surgery for 2007 from the American Association for Thoracic Surgery. His research project was on *“Microencapsulation of stem cells to improve cell retention for myocardial regenerative therapy”*.

For work done at the LD McLean Surgical Research Labs, research student **Braedon McDonald** received the 2007 Sigma Xi Excellence in Undergraduate Research Award for the project entitled *“Molecular Mechanisms of Esophageal Cancer Metastasis: The interconnected roles of selectins, inflammation, and neutrophils in tumor cell adhesion within the liver microcirculation”*. **Dr. Lorenzo Ferri** was the supervisor. ♦

My Daddy the M.D.



Whenever Daddy signs his name
He always writes M.D.
So that people all will know
that he belongs to me.
For M.D. means “My Daddy”
or something just the same.
And that is always why he puts
those letters in his name.
Some letters in his name are small
But these are not you see.
He always makes them big like that
because he’s proud of me.

The only weapon with which the unconscious patient can immediately retaliate upon the incompetent surgeon is hemorrhage.



– William Stewart Halsted (1852-1922)
Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital 1912; 23:191



Welcome to the New Chief Residents, 2007-2008

CARDIAC SURGERY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. KEVIN LACHAPELLE

Dr. Tareq Al-Einati

It is our pleasure to introduce Dr. Al-Einati who will McGill University's first official fellow in Cardiac Surgery commencing July 1st, 2007. Dr. Al-Einati from Kuwait City. His Cardiac Surgery training was done at McMaster University between 1999 and 2005. He obtained his Royal College certification in May of 2006 following a Cardiovascular Surgery Fellowship at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. His particular interests are in complex valve repair, aortic arch surgery as well as mechanical support in heart failure. We wish to welcome Tareq to McGill University and hope he has a productive and satisfying year.



Dr. Noritaka Ota

The Division of Cardiac Surgery would like to welcome Dr. Ota to McGill University as he embarks on a two year fellowship in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery. Dr. Ota is from Shizuoka, Japan where he is on staff in the Department of Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery at the Shizuoka Children's Hospital. Apart from his clear interest in congenital heart surgery in the young, he is also interested in obtaining experience in adult congenital cardiac surgery. Dr. Ota already has a strong publication record and no doubt will be a valuable addition to the Division of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery at McGill University. We would like to welcome Dr. Ota and his family to Montreal and hope their experience is a fruitful one.

GENERAL SURGERY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. S. METERISSIAN



Abdulrahim Al-Awashez is a graduate from King Saud University, College of Medicine. After graduating he completed 3 years of residency at the King Khalid University Hospital. He started his residency at McGill in 2003. He completed six months of research with Dr. R. Tabah. He is presently applying for a Fellowship position in Endocrine Surgery.



Hussein Barayan is a graduate of King Abdulaziz. Hussein started his residency at McGill in July 2003 after completing 2 years of residency at the King Faisal Specialist Hospital. He completed six months

of research in Hepatopancreatobiliary Surgery with Dr. P. Metrakos. Hussein has been accepted for a 2-year Fellowship in Hepatopancreatobiliary Surgery here at McGill starting July 1, 2008.



Sebastian Demyttenaere is a graduate of McGill University. Seb started his residency in July 2002. He completed 1 year of research with the MIS group under the direction of Dr. G. Fried, completing a Master's Degree in Experimental Surgery. He is planning a career in Minimally Invasive Surgery starting with a Fellowship in an MIS Program next year.



Thamer Nouh is a graduate of King Saud University. Thamer completed 3 years of surgical residency prior to starting his residency at McGill in July 2003. Thamer is interested in Trauma/Critical Care. He will be completing a Critical Care Medicine Fellowship at McGill starting July 1, 2007.



Khowlah Qasem is a graduate of Kuwait University. She started her residency at McGill in July 2003. She completed 6 months of research and is interested in a career in colorectal surgery.



Esmaeel Taqi is a graduate of the King Abdulaziz University. Esmaeel started his residency at McGill in July 2003 after his internship and 2 years of surgical residency back home. Esmaeel completed 6 months of research with Dr. Laberge and is presently applying for a Fellowship in Pediatric Surgery.

HEPATO-PANCREATO-BILIARY AND TRANSPLANT

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. PETER METRAKOS



Dr. Mazen Hassanain is a graduate from King Saud University in Saudi Arabia with Honors. He graduated from his McGill Residency in 2006 and did research with Dr. Metrakos in 2007. He will start a Surgical Oncology Fellowship in 2008 with a hepatobiliary specialization.



▶ PEDIATRIC GENERAL SURGERY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. JEAN-MARTIN LABERGE



Dr. Suad Gholoum is a Kuwaiti physician. She completed her undergraduate studies in Dublin, Ireland at "The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland" where she received her Bachelor of Science and obtained her medical degree. From 2000-2002 she completed two years of General Surgery training at Mubarek Al-Kabeer Hospital in Kuwait. Dr. Gholoum was accepted into the McGill General Surgery Program in 2002. During her research year Dr. Gholoum worked with Drs. Jean-Martin Laberge and Pramod S. Puligandla studying the management and outcome of patients with combined vaginal septum, bifid uterus and ipsilateral renal agenesis (Hurlyn-Wunderlich-Werner's Syndrome). The Division of Pediatric General Surgery is pleased to have selected Dr. Suad Gholoum for its two-year fellowship program. Dr. Gholoum will begin her fellowship on July 1st, 2007. We congratulate Suad and welcome her to our Division.

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

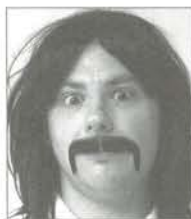
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. REGGIE C. HAMDY



Dr. Marco Ferrone: Traveling under the assumed name of Ferrone, Marco's parents were smuggled into the United States after leading a failed uprising in the slave pits of Latveria. The habits learned by the future Commandante on the blood-slick floor of the gladiatorial arena proved ill-suited for peaceful American life. In federal prison, he met an exiled South American revolutionary who taught Marco his guerilla secrets and trained him as his successor. Now, his seething rage finally given a purpose, Marco decided to subvert the system from within. Ironically, he chose the nation's capital to study medicine before moving to Montreal to hone his separatist skills. Enraged by the spoiling of his toothbrush he responded with his Orthopaedic Communist Manifesto: "The Proletariat must feel my bone!" Finally, equipped with the knowledge of 317 ways to kill a man, Marco has found master sensei Bates in New York who will teach him the dreaded 318th – the removal of a spine from a still-living victim. We all wish him well.



Dr. Neil Saran: After an inauspicious start as a child underwear model, Neil got his first big break as a member of Marky Mark's Funky Bunch. Despite a career in the high fashion world of men's haberdashery, the jet-set lifestyle proved difficult to maintain; Neil fell on tough times and ended up as a carnie in Vancouver. It was these formative days which laid the foundation for a lifetime of dedication to midgets and dwarfs. Dr Saran



has vowed to right the wrongs of genetics and assist all "little people" in his holy quest for orthopaedic perfection. Donning his Shriner's cap, Dr. Saran heads to Scotland for a pediatric masters with Bates next spring. Aside from his flair for fashion and attentiveness to grooming, this young doctor has truly learned to put all crippled children (but not the British children) ahead of his own personal life.

Dr. Guido Höckmann: Guido, The Man in Black, left the göth scene in disgrace after creating his Cröatian industrial rock megahits: 'My Little Pöny Show in Tijuana', and 'Care Bear Mölestation.' After years of wandering the earth avenging his murdered sensei, he moved on to finish a masters thesis with Bates in Töronto: "Haematolögical Dyscrasias of the Sexually Active Vampire" but failed to enjoy the associated cult fame due to an injury sustained in a freak assault by 12 year old rednecks in Vermönt. Guido, the crowned prince of call rööom darkness, still ambulates with a limp from his injured third leg. After completing his brief stint as a trauma patient, Guido has called upon the power of Grayskull to back his newest göth group "The Severed Members." Guido is expected to lend a hand to Töronto's vibrating Luchadör community-- should he book his flight cörractly.



Dr. Sourendra Raut: A master student of Bates and Deceit, Sourendra "Sean" "Sean-Puffy" "Chip" "Rault" Raut has managed to keep a formidable veil over his sordid personal affairs. All we know about this former National Nintendo Allstar is that he continues to hold planetary records in both "Dig Dug" and "Zelda".

Really very good at all things binary, Sourendra, a Warlock Level Four Dungeon Master with powers of invisibility and confusion, continues to incorporate Shao Lin tibial nail skills into his operative regime. During rare Sourendra sightings, he can be observed near his natural habitat- the loo. Sources close to the sneaky foot fetishist report he will be en route to England for further training-- for all we know he's already left. Very good.



Dr. Matthew Stiebel: Consumed with white guilt, Matthew's parents sold the boy to a wealthy black Connecticut family, Bates. Matt's frequent visits with Master Bates did not go unnoticed and he soon took over his adoptive family's economic empire. Implicated in the multibillion dollar "Tasty

Swine Scandal" that shamed him into leaving the life of usury, and led to excommunication by the pope, ▶

- ▶ Matthew decided it would be safer to flee the country. Like many draft dodgers before him, Matthew chose Montreal as his place of refuge. Despite moonlighting as a marginally unsuccessful male prostitute, Matthew still found time to get the business during working hours. Following his dream, he will be counseling violent 12 year old rednecks south of the border in a sports therapy program.

UROLOGY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. SERGE CARRIER



Dr. Adel Al-Ammari graduated from King AbdulAziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in 2000. He joined the McGill Urology Residency Program in 2003 after three years of training in Urology at the University Hospital in Saudi Arabia. He has been selected Academic Chief Resident in Urology for 2007-2008. One of his dreams is to build the robotic laparoscopic unit in King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Dr. Al-Ammari is blessed with a large family. He has a very supportive wife and three lovely children.

VASCULAR SURGERY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. KENT MACKENZIE



In July 2007, **Dr. Paul Heneghan** will begin his 2nd year as a vascular surgery fellow at McGill. Paul came to us from 'The Rock' in 2006, with the goal of becoming a well-trained vascular surgeon and with plans to return on staff at Memorial University, in St. John's Newfoundland. Prior to starting his fellowship with us, Paul was a practicing General Surgeon, spending the last 6 years in a busy general surgical practice in Grand Falls.

Paul has spent the year in the city alone without his family, but thankfully he will be joined in Montreal this summer by his wife Jo-Ann and his 3 beautiful children, who will spend the remainder of his training with him in La Belle Province. Paul's interests outside of surgery include running and reading and he is well known for his skills in pub-side poetry reading. However, as anyone who knows him can confirm, these skills are all far surpassed by his rabid enthusiasm for his beloved Habs. There is not an OR day that passes without Paul providing a complete analysis of the previous week's games and all appropriate moves that should be done by Habs' management to get the team back on track. We wish Paul all the best and look forward to the coming year.



Dr. Reda Jamjoom will be commencing his vascular surgery fellowship with us at McGill in July 2007. Reda comes to us from Halifax, Nova Scotia, a place he has called home since 2002. He was born in Alkhobar, Saudi Arabia and received his medical school education from King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, KSA. He is currently completing his General Surgery residency at Dalhousie University in Halifax. During his residency he successfully completed a Masters in Education at Mount St. Vincent University with a focus on medical education. His interests outside of medicine include computers, horse back riding and diving. We look forward to 2 good years with Reda at McGill.



Dr. Thanh Vo will commence her 2-year vascular surgery fellowship with us at McGill in July 2007. Thanh hails from the Montreal region and completed her high school education at Ecole Secondaire St. Maxime in Laval, CEGEP at College Bois-de-Boulogne and medical school at L'Universite de Montreal. In 2002 she began her general surgery training at L'Universite Sherbrooke. We had the opportunity to work with Thanh in 2005 when she spent several months on our service at the Royal Victoria during an elective in vascular surgery and look forward to the opportunity to work with her again. Thanh comes to McGill with high recommendations from her general surgery training program and her colleagues in Sherbrooke would like very much for her to return on staff at L'Universite Sherbrooke when her vascular surgery training is completed. ♦

**To grasp the spirit of Medicine is easy:
Learn of the great and little world you fill,
To let it go at last, so please ye,
Just as God will!
In vain that through the realms of science
you may drift;
Each one learns only -- just what learn he can:
Yet he who grasps the Moment's gift,
He is the proper man.**

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)
Faust, Part I, Act I, Sc. iv (tr. by Bayard Taylor)



► **THE PIONEERS**

Early in May, 1958, a young woman was brought to the Montreal Neurological Hospital. She had suffered a seizure and was hypertensive and severely acidotic. Her physicians

Transplant

continued from page 1

recognized the hallmarks of acute renal failure and, in the days before the existence of a nephrology service, consulted a physician with expertise in electrolyte imbalances. **Dr. John Dossetor**, having recently completed his medical training as well as a PhD in electrolyte metabolism, was called to assess the teenager. As he crossed University Street to the MNH, his resident briefed him on the case. The girl had been stabilized, but would need definitive therapy. Having taken a thorough history from the girl's mother, the resident mentioned that the patient had an identical twin sister. Dossetor's thoughts turned immediately to an almost unheard of procedure as one that might help save the young patient. He had recently reviewed the first few cases of transplantation of the kidney from the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston. There, only isografts between identical twins had been performed, due to the difficulty in treating immunologic rejection. After conferring with colleagues, Dossetor came to the realization that transplantation was the best hope for the girl. The family, most importantly the twin sister, was fully in support. Dialysis was still a hazardous option, with daily treatments lasting many hours. It was often complicated by gastrointestinal bleeding, due to the high levels of anticoagulation required. The team initially offered to cover the family's expenses and refer them to Boston. The girls' mother, however, would hear none of it. She insisted that the RVH staff perform the transplant, as she would be unable to leave her large family behind.

On May 28, 1958, the transplant took place. **Dr. Joe Luke**, a vascular surgeon and **Dr. Ken MacKinnon**, then the Chief of Urology, performed the operation, first removing the donor's left kidney, then implanting it into her sister. It would be the first successful organ transplant anywhere in the British Commonwealth, and it put McGill on the map of a nascent and exciting field. The donor and her sister went on to lead full and, in some ways, parallel lives. The recipient enjoyed normal kidney function until 1974 and then lived another 16 years before succumbing to breast cancer. Her sister is alive today, albeit having faced both renal impairment and breast cancer herself.

FROM BEDSIDE TO BENCH, AND BACK AGAIN

Until the early 1960's the field of transplantation was limited to kidneys donated between identical twins. As methods of immunosuppression became more effective, allografts from deceased donors could be performed. When these advances were made, the McGill program was again on the forefront.

Led by Chairman of Surgery **Dr. Lloyd MacLean**, the Royal Victoria struck again with the first Canadian cadaveric kidney transplant, in 1963. Dr. MacLean would later recruit **Dr. Jean-Guy Beaudoin**, a general surgeon with whom he would build not only a productive clinical service, but a research program which was unequalled in Canada. Among the scientists and clinicians whose activity was centered at the Donner Building, **Dr. Julius Gordon** would lead the development of a mixed lymphocyte reaction for determining donor-recipient histocompatibility. In 1970, the group would characterize a signaling protein responsible for lymphocyte activation and proliferation; the cytokine would later be identified as IL-2. In the interplay between clinic and lab, the atmosphere in the transplant program in the late 60's would later be described by one of those present as a "fantastic ferment" of ideas and initiatives. At this time, liver transplants in animals were attempted, and research into xenotransplantation was conducted with cross-circulation experiments to study the feasibility of using baboon livers to treat humans. The interest in histocompatibility led to the development of what is still the only in-house tissue typing laboratory in the province, an incalculable asset to the program today and throughout its history. In 1968, another first was achieved when Drs. MacLean and **Anthony Dobell** performed the first heart transplant in Canada, the recipient surviving some 5 years and becoming the 3rd longest survivor in the world at the time.

By the 1970's the kidney program would be performing over 20 such grafts a year – some of which are still functioning today. By then, the practice of transplantation was taking shape and clinicians fully devoted to this specialty would be entering the scene. **Dr. Ronald Guttman** began working as a transplant nephrologist in 1970. In nearly 25 years at the Royal Vic, Dr. Guttman would build a program of international academic renown. During this time, his laboratory would even be the source of a home-grown anti-lymphocyte serum raised in horses, that became a staple of post-transplant immunosuppression. With the departure of Dr. Beaudoin in 1976, **Dr. Jonathan Meakins**, who had trained in transplantation while in Cincinnati, would take over the program and, with **Dr. Doug Morehouse** of Urology, perform kidney transplants for the next 10 years. They would later be joined by **Dr. Cathy Milne**. In 1986, **Dr. Carl Nohr** joined the service as a surgeon-scientist fully trained in transplantation at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Nohr would take over most of the activity in the kidney program, with Dr. Morehouse performing living donor nephrectomies, until 1995. He would also establish the transplant clinic on Ross 2.

GROWTH AND MATURATION

In 1990, the group, including **Drs. Lawrence** ►

► **Rosenberg, Marvin Wexler** and **Meakins**, would perform the first liver transplant at McGill. Shortly thereafter, **Dr. Jean Tchervenkov**, having trained with **Dr. Wesley Alexander** in Cincinnati, would bring his particular expertise in liver and kidney transplantation to both adult and pediatric recipients. Dr. Tchervenkov would lead the development of the liver program into one of Canada's most innovative, spearheading the treatment of hepatitis B cirrhosis through the development of a recurrence-free protocol that has become the gold standard of today. As his program grew in size and success, he would be joined by **Dr. Jeffrey Barkun** in 1993 and current Director, **Dr. Peter Metrakos** in 1996, who had completed fellowships in Toronto and Minneapolis, respectively. The strong tradition in experimental surgery and immunology continued. In December, 1994, Dr. Tchervenkov and the liver team, with **Dr. Joe Tector**, then a general surgery resident in the lab, would successfully use a pig liver to support a woman dying of primary biliary cirrhosis in the ICU, until a cadaveric liver became available the following day. That recipient is alive and well 13 years later, thanks to the only successful case of hepatic xenoperfusion ever performed in Canada, and one of only a handful in the world.

In 1997, Dr. Metrakos inaugurated the Royal Vic's pancreas-kidney program. Dr. Rosenberg had performed these grafts at the MGH since 1988, and with the merger of the two transplant programs in 1996, the McGill experience was concentrated in a critical mass. The following year, the program performed the first combined living donor kidney and cadaveric pancreas in Canada. In a field whose development had been slow in this country, the pancreas program quickly made its mark. Solitary pancreas transplantation, for the early treatment of the brittle diabetic, became another McGill signature, with Canada's first case performed by Dr. Metrakos in 1998. The recipient, a young woman, has lived nearly 10 years without insulin and has successfully carried two healthy pregnancies. The RVH is still the only Canadian center performing solitary pancreas grafts and has attracted referrals from 6 other provinces.

In 1998, **Dr. Renzo Cecere** took the helm of the cardiac transplant program, following his training at Stanford University. Joined by cardiologist **Dr. Nadia Giannetti** and transplant physician **Dr. Marcelo Cantarovich**, he would oversee the maturation of the transplant and heart failure program into one of the country's leaders. In recent years, the heart program has developed new immunosuppressive protocols and made technical advances in both transplantation and mechanical heart implementation.

In 2000, the live donor kidney program adapted the laparoscopic technique for donor nephrectomy, making the

surgery more attractive and speeding the recovery for these donors, who frequently must return home to help care for their recipients. **Dr. Liane Feldman** of General Surgery has perfected this technique and, with **Dr. Maurice Anidjar** of Urology, performed over 100 such operations, leading the province and establishing new standards in living donor management.

I joined the surgical staff in 2002, (the fourth McGill transplant surgeon trained in Minnesota after Drs. MacLean, Nohr and Metrakos) with the task of boosting pancreas and kidney programs, basic research and developing islet cell transplantation. In the last five years, the program has grown to be the largest in Quebec, and one of the most comprehensive multi-organ programs in the country. We are excited to welcome **Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury** this summer, whose multi-organ and hepatobiliary experience at Northwestern University in Chicago will complement many facets of our activities.

VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

To date, the program has transplanted close to 1400 kidneys, 574 livers, 370 hearts and 122 pancreases. Last year, 152 adult transplants took place, a record for the institution, including the first combined heart-liver in Quebec (two more by year's end would be successfully done). This spring, led by a team of anaesthesiologists, nurses, intensivists, ethicists and surgeons, the province's first organ procurement from a donor after cardiac death (since the early 60's) was performed at the MNI operating suite. This logistically challenging procedure involves the co-ordinated and planned withdrawal of life support from a terminally brain-injured patient following familial consent, then proceeds rapidly to laparotomy, organ perfusion and procurement after death is declared. While it has already become commonplace in Europe, it promises to expand the pool of organ donors by as much as thirty percent, reducing the waiting times and morbidity for all recipients. New technologies in mechanical pulsatile preservation of kidneys are being adopted and the RVH leads the country in the use of kidneys from older or 'expanded criteria' donors, with results that approach those of standard kidneys. In November, 2006, the multi-organ inpatient unit moved to a renovated ward on Ross 3, with single-bed rooms and modern amenities such as wireless access for patient clinical information, conference and family areas, a clinical research center and a day hospital. The renovations were made possible by the Royal Victoria Hospital Foundation and imbued the program with a great sense of renewal.

On the academic side, a surgical fellowship has, since 2002, begun training a new generation of transplant and hepatobiliary surgeons. Its graduates now practice ►

► in such varied locations as Greece, Saudi Arabia and the United States. New partnerships with McGill immunologists such as **Dr. Ciro Piccirillo**, a regulatory T-cell expert, promise to revitalize the basic research program with a focus on immune monitoring, ischemia/reperfusion injury and cellular stress. Their collaboration also assures a high quality lab experience for our students and residents. Plans for a larger transplant and tumor immunology lab in a new location on campus are being developed. In addition, two new clinical programs are entering preparatory phases. With the support of the Canada Foundation for Innovation, a \$2.5M facility for the clinical isolation of islets of Langerhans is being constructed this summer at the McGill Genome Center. This lab will help the MUHC provide the most comprehensive treatment program for type 1 diabetes in Canada. With colleagues in nutrition and gastroenterology, we are working to develop a small intestinal/multi-visceral transplant program for those who face lifelong parenteral nutrition or have complex abdominal tumors.

As with many firsts, the transplant program began thanks to a unique combination of good fortune and innovative thinking. Its growth, however, has been much more complex. Organ transplantation remains a rapidly changing field, combining

unique surgical and medical techniques and protocols with an ever-expanding pharmacological armamentarium. While I have, for The Square Knot, focused on the surgical teams, the program cannot exist without the concerted efforts of our colleagues in transplant nephrology, hepatology, endocrinology and cardiology, among others. In addition, the tireless efforts of the nursing team on Ross 3 and nurse co-ordinators in the clinic, led for many years by **Ms. Valerie Cass**, have provided the highest level of care to our recipients. We are also indebted to many benefactors and to our partners in industry, without whose support these programs could not have flourished.

In 2008, the MUHC Multi-organ Transplant Program will mark its 50th anniversary and planning of celebrations is already under way. Recognizing our place in a great tradition such as McGill's is a never-ending source of inspiration and motivation. Drawing plans for the next 50 years will follow shortly. ♦

I would like to acknowledge the following individuals who provided perspectives and information on the events described: Dr. John Dosssetor, Dr. Jonathan Meakins, Ms. Lorraine Peters, Dr. Lloyd MacLean.

Steven Paraskevas, MD, PhD.

Letters

continued from page 2

Editor's Note: Dr. Meakins is Nuffield Professor of Surgery at Oxford University, and past Department Chairman in Surgery at McGill.

Dear Editor,

Included please find a recently taken picture at my home. This was taken when I hosted at my house friends and colleagues who attended the American Association for Thoracic Surgery meeting in Washington DC. From left to right: **Jason Shaw, Lorenzo Ferri, Garrett Walsh, me, Carlos Li and Dominique Shum-Tim**, all are or were from McGill. During this meeting, Dominique and I were officially inducted to the membership of the prestigious AATS.

I have recently accepted an offer to join the Department of Surgery/Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the University of Miami. I will function as Chief of the Section of Thoracic Surgery within the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. My task is to develop the clinical and research component of the section of thoracic surgery with emphasis on thoracic oncology. I will be working with distinguished McGill Department of Surgery alumni including **Drs. Alan Livingstone, Tomas Salerno, James Symes and Danny Sleeman**. I will be

leaving NCI/NIH at the end of August after spending 9 years at this great institution where I developed my expertise in the field of thoracic oncology.

Best regards,

Dao M. Nguyen, MD, MSc, Principal Investigator
(Tenure-Track) Section of Thoracic Oncology,
Surgery Branch, CCR, NCI/NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA

Editor's Note: Dr. Nguyen was an Assistant Professor in Thoracic Surgery at McGill before moving to NIH. At the University of Miami in Florida, Dr. Alan Livingstone is Chairman of the Department of Surgery, Dr. Tomas Salerno the Director of Cardiothoracic Division, and Dr. James Symes the Chief of Cardiac Surgery at Miami VA Hospital. They were all "McGill boys". ♦



Drs. Jason Shaw, Lorenzo Ferri, Garret Walsh, Dao M. Nguyen, Carlos Li and Dominique Shum-Tim.

T

Urology Research Day

he Urology Division held its 17th Annual Research Day on April 25th 2007. **Dr. Jacques Corcos** and **Dr. Mario Chevette** were responsible for the organization of the event, which took place at the Lady Davis Institute of the Jewish General Hospital.

Dr. Armen Aprikian, the Urologist-in-Chief and Chairman of the Division, opened the Research Day by welcoming all participants. **Dr. Simone Chevalier**, Director of Research, presented a summary of the 21 scientific presentations regrouped according to research axes and focused on Urologic Malignancies, Andrology/Fertility, Urinary Obstruction and Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia, and the Academic Mission of the Division.

The distinguished guest speaker, **Dr. Karl-Erik Andersson**, Professor at the Institute for Regenerative Medicine, Wake

Forest University, North Carolina, updated the group on the over-reactive bladder and the "Basis for Drug Treatment".

Students, fellows, residents, and research personnel presented their research findings, and three best presentations won awards (see Achievements and Congrats). Their works nicely showed fruitful collaborations of members within and across axes and valuable complementary efforts of ongoing research projects dealing with basic, translational, and clinical aspects of Urology. ♦



M

ini-Symposium on Urologic Malignancies at the McGill University Health Center (MUHC) and the Research Institute (RI) – Organized by the Division of Urology, the 1st Mini-Symposium on Urologic Malignancies took place at Livingston Hall of the Montreal General Hospital on Wednesday March 14, 2007. The scientific program was set to be patient-oriented with presentations on prostate, bladder

Urologic Malignancies Symposium

Simone Chevalier, Ph.D.

and kidney cancers, ranging from basic, translational, and clinical research. Physicians and scientists belonging to the departments of Surgery, Pathology, Radiation-Oncology, Oncology, and Medicine, were invited to progressively bring participants through their recent discoveries on new markers and models as well as innovative therapeutics approaches for urologic malignancies. This represented a unique opportunity to learn from each other on ongoing research. It ended by talks on cancer-specific initiatives taken to build data and specimen banks and

fund more research projects in the perspective of a promising future for Urologic Oncology. The Symposium was sponsored in part by the FRSQ, within the spirit of the Oncology axis scientific activities. Overall, the event was a great success and was highly appreciated by participants and its organizers. This is considered as an important step forward to promote Urologic Cancer Research at the MUHC and McGill University. It highlighted the innovative and leadership role that the MUHC Urologic Oncology Group has achieved. ♦



Dr Simone Chevalier, Dr Armen Aprikian, Dr Jordan Steinberg, Dr Shafaat Rabbani, Dr Kanishka Sircar, Dr Jacques Lapointe, Dr Wassim Kassouf, Dr Orest Blaschuk, Dr Maurice Anidjar, Dr Steven Ades, Dr Fabio Cury, Dr Mostafa Elhilali, Dr Mario Chevette, Dr Simon Tanguay

18th Annual Fraser Gurd Day May 31, 2007



Visiting Professor Dr. Richard M. Satava and Dr. Mostafa Elhilali



TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD (*Post Graduate Education*)

Dr. Paola Fata

THE "EDDY"
EDMOND D. MONAGHAN PRINCIPLES OF SURGERY AWARD

Dr. Hasan Al-Ajmi & Dr. Stéphane Bergeron (a tie)

KATHRYN ROLPH AWARD

Dr. Lucie Lessard

OUTSTANDING RESIDENT / FELLOW TEACHER AWARDS

Cardiac: **Dr. Carolyn Teng**

General Surgery: **Dr. Zainab Al-Balushi**

Orthopaedic Surgery: **Dr. Corey Richards**

Plastic Surgery: **Dr. Mirko Gilardino**

Urology: **Dr. Mohammed Al-Otaibi**

RESEARCH AWARDS

Oral Presentations for Excellence in Research

1st Prize: **Ms. Julia Burnier**

"The Acquisition of a Liver-Metastasizing Potential In Murine and Human Carcinoma Cells is Associated With Altered Extracellular Matrix Composition and Processing"

2nd Prize: **Dr. Mirko Gilardino**

"The Transverse Cervical Vessels as Recipients in Difficult Head and Neck Microsurgical"

3rd Prize: **Mr. Braedon McDonald**

"The Influence Of Inflammation Inducible Selectin /Sialyl Lewis X Binding On Intestinal Cancer Cell Migration In Vivo"

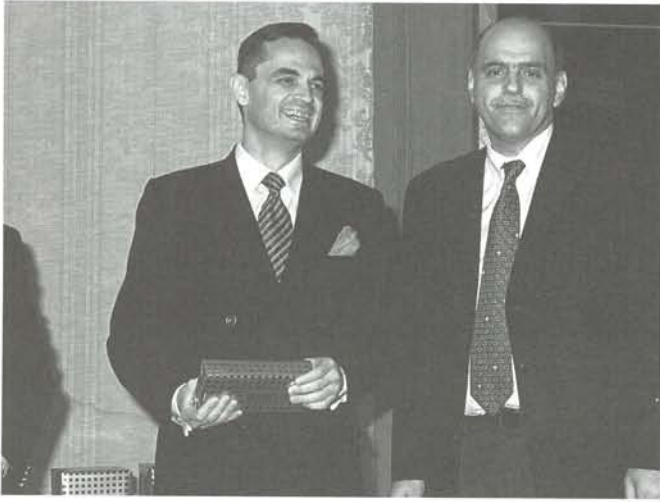
Poster Presentations for Excellence in Research

1st Prize: **Mr. Stephen Hanley**

Poster entitled: *"In Vitro Lineage Tracing of Adult Human Islet-Derived Transitional Cells"*



Highlights



Fraser Gurd Day (cont'd)





Fraser Gurd Day (cont'd)





5th Annual L.D. MacLean Visiting Professor

MARCH 20-22, 2007

The 5th L.D. MacLean General Surgery Visiting Professor was celebrated by the McGill Division of General Surgery from March 20th to the 22nd, 2007.

Our invited guest this year was **Dr. Robin McLeod**, Head of the Division of Surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital; Professor in the Department of Surgery and Head of the Surgical Clinical Epidemiology Group at the University of Toronto.

Executive members and their spouses showed their support for the Visiting Professor at a special dinner in her honor at Le Caveau Restaurant.

On Wednesday, March 21st, the scientific program was very well attended by staff, Residents and Alumni staff. The event was launched with stimulating research presentations by **Dr. Marylise Boutros**, **Dr. Mazen Hassanain**, **Dr. Melina Vassiliou**, and **Dr. Abdullah Ali**. Two lively debates followed the presentations: **Dr. Lorenzo Ferri** with **Dr. Eric Poirier** against and **Dr. Esmael Taqi** with **Dr. J. Ryckman**. The former debate was a particular crowd favourite. The program concluded with **Dr. Robin McLeod's** lecture, *Recurrence of Crohn's Disease – The Problem, The Solution?*

At the banquet, held that evening at the Omni Mont Royal Hotel, staff and residents relaxed and enjoyed many anecdotes and casual humor. The Award for Best Presentation went to **Dr. Marylise Boutros** and the Best Debater Award to **Dr. Eric Poirier**. **Dr. Paolo Fata** was

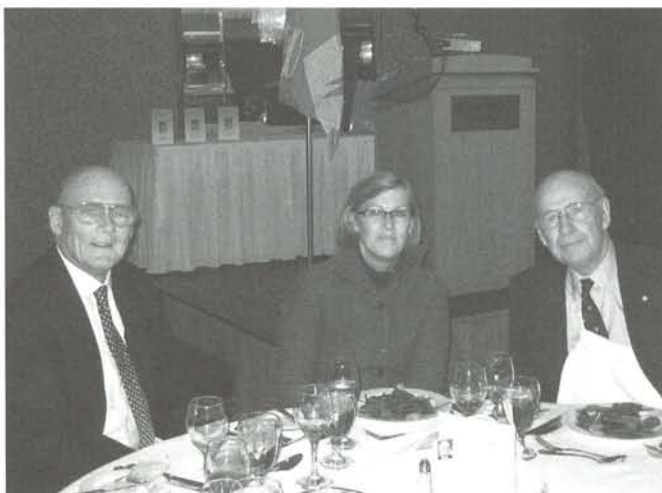
presented the Award for Outstanding General Surgeon Teacher. **Dr. Thamer Nouh** received the Outstanding General Surgery Resident Teacher Award. Ms Rita Piccioni, Ms Sonia Bustillo and Richard Chenier were thanked for their efforts in organizing this major event.

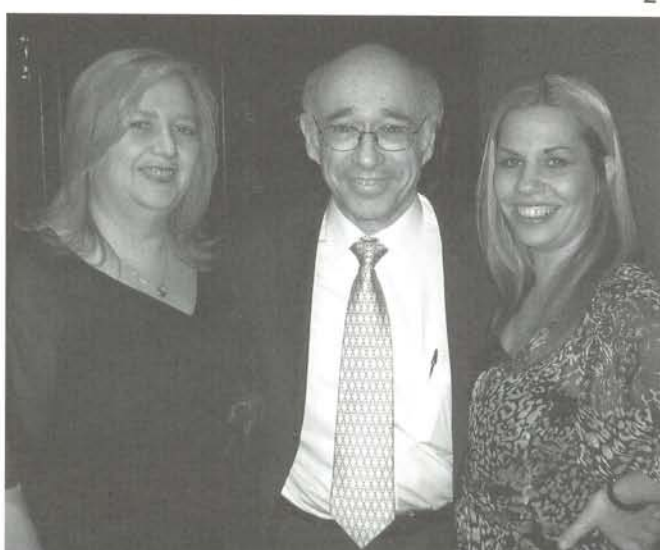
Dr. L. D. MacLean entertained and educated guests with his recollections about staff surgeons in an old photo. The evening concluded with closing remarks from **Dr. Jeffrey Barkun** highlighting the many achievements by members of the division over the past year.

At Grand Rounds the following morning Dr. Robin McLeod presented *Adopting Evidence into Practice* thus concluding another highly successful Annual L.D. MacLean General Surgery Day. ♦



Dr. Robin McLeod and Dr. Jeffrey Barkun





Vascular Surgery Visiting Professor

APRIL 12, 2007

On April 12, 2007 we were very honored to have **Dr. Tim Chuter** come to McGill as the 2007 Vascular Visiting Professor. Dr. Chuter is a vascular surgeon with a special interest in the use of branched and fenestrated stent-grafts to treat aneurysms of the aorta. Chuter is a pioneer in the field and was responsible for many "firsts" in endovascular surgery for aortic aneurysm, he designed, built and used the first bifurcated stent-graft for abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) repair, the first modular system for endovascular repair of an aortic arch aneurysm

and the first modular system for bilateral iliac aneurysms. In addition, Chuter performed the first endovascular repair of the following: an inflammatory aneurysm, an aorto-bronchial fistula and a thoracoabdominal aneurysm. He is currently the Director of the Endovascular Surgery Program at UCSF and a Professor of Surgery.

In 2002 Dr. Chuter came to McGill and helped us perform the endovascular repair of a visceral aortic aneurysm done in Canada with a branched endovascular graft that he designed and produced. That procedure took 14 hours and was a technical challenge to all involved. With that procedure the McGill program for branched and fenestrated endovascular program was born. Through this program, under the leadership of **Dr. Cherrie Abraham** at the Jewish General Hospital

► we have now treated 15 patients with branched and or fenestrated endovascular stent-grafts here at McGill. Due to his experience in the field Cherrie is now acting as clinical preceptor helping other centers perform these challenging procedures at sites across the country.

Dr. Chuter presented Multidisciplinary Surgical Grand rounds on *The Changing Management of Aortic Aneurysm* and discussed how new developments in endovascular stent graft technology have radically changed the treatment options for aortic aneurysms. The boundaries between what can and what cannot be treated with endovascular stent grafts are gradually being pushed back due to new innovations.

The academic sessions continued in the afternoon at the Medical Simulation Center where vascular staff, residents, and fellows presented clinical challenges and research presentations.

In the evening a dinner and lecture was held at the Chateau Ramezay Museum where Dr Chuter highlighted some more

technical aspects branched endovascular stent grafts. The afternoon and evening events were well attended by vascular surgeons, interventional radiologists, fellows and residents from McGill, University of Ottawa, University of Montreal and Laval, as well as many vascular surgery colleagues from around the Montreal area.

It was great to catch up with three recent former McGill vascular surgery fellows **Dr. Marie-France Guimond** (2000-2002) from the CHUQ, **Dr Robert Mailhot** (2004-2006), from Centre Hospitalier Trois Rivieres, and **Dr. Marie Pierre LeGuillan** (2001-2003), from Hopital Charles LeMoynes.

Dr Andrew Hill, formerly of McGill and currently Chief of Vascular Surgery at Ottawa helped organize the academic sessions in the afternoon and the evening came to town with four other vascular surgeons and two vascular surgery fellows to participate in the presentations of the afternoon session. We plan future McGill-Ottawa collaborations for the future. ♦



Drs. Marc Corriveau, Tim Chuter, Cherrie Abraham



Former McGill Vascular Fellows, Drs. Marie Pierre LeGuillan and Marie France Guimond



The Ottawa contingent at the Simulation Center, from left to right (Ottawa vascular fellow), Sid Nagpal, George Hajjar, Prasad Jetty, Anton Sharapov(fellow), Tim Brandys, Andrew Hill

Surgical Oncology Visiting Professor

MAY 9-10, 2007

By Roger Tabah, M.D.

On May 9-10, 2007 the Cedars Cancer Institute of the MUHC hosted **Dr. Kenneth K. Tanabe** as its eighteenth E.J. Tabah Visiting Professor in Surgical Oncology. Dr. Tanabe is currently Deputy Clinical Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, and is Associate Professor of Surgery and Director of the Surgical Oncology Research Laboratories at Harvard. On May 9th he presented his experimental work on *Herpes Simplex Oncolysis of Hepatic Tumors*, and on May 10th he presented his *Current Protocol Integrating Surgery and Chemotherapy for Colorectal Liver Metastases*.

While at McGill, he met with **Dr. Morag Park** and the Molecular Oncology Group, and with **Dr. Pnina Brodt** and the Liver Metastases Group. On Wednesday Dr. Tanabe, accompanied by **Drs. Alan Turnbull, Sarkis Meterissian** and **Roger Tabah**, enjoyed a memorable tour of the Osler Library. His visit culminated with a two hour intellectual and academic exchange with the McGill Surgical Oncology Fellows. The Department of Surgery wishes to thank the Cedars Cancer Institute for its help in ensuring the continued success of the E.J. Tabah Visiting Professor Program. ♦



Dr. Meterissian, Dr. Tanabe and Dr. Tabah.



Dr. Shibata and Dr. Tanabe



Drs. Elhilali, Tanabe, Turnbull, Shibata and Wexler

Plastic Surgery Visiting Professor

MAY 12, 2007

Dr. Elof Eriksson was the Visiting Professor in Plastic Surgery at MUHC on May 12, 2007. He is the Chairman of the Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at the Peter Bent Brigham – Harvard University. He is very well-known in Wound Healing research and has been funded by NIH for 14 consecutive years.

We were delighted to have him with us for 2 days. He gave 2 superb lectures and Surgical Grand Round on *Wound Healing: the Science and the Applications*. ♦



Dr. Williams, Dr. Lessard and Dr. Eriksson



Stikeman Visiting Professor

JUNE 7, 2007

Dr. Tirone David, Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto and Head of the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Toronto General Hospital, was the 39th Stikeman Visiting Professor to the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at McGill University.

On June 7 2007, at Surgical Grand Rounds in the Osler Amphitheatre of the Montreal General Hospital, Dr. David spoke on *Principles of Aortic Valve Sparing Operations*. This was followed by laboratory and clinical research presentations by the residents in the Division. After lunch, the afternoon session consisted of presentations by staff, alumni as well as residents. The alumni from out of town who attended this year's event were **Dr. Lee Errett**, **Dr. Lynda Mickleborough**, **Dr. Garrett Walsh**, **Dr. Kapil Sharma** and **Dr. Reza Mehran**. Local



Dr. Tyrone David

visitors included **Dr. Yves Langlois** from the Jewish General Hospital and **Dr. Pierre Page** from the Sacre-Coeur Hospital.

The annual banquet was held at the University Club in honor of the Visiting Professor and our graduating residents – **Dr. Marlene Grenon**, **Dr. Carolyn Teng** and **Dr. Sebastien Trop**.

It was a pleasure to welcome Dr. David, fellow Canadian cardiac surgeon who has achieved world recognition, as the 2007 Stikeman Visiting Professor to our Division as well as the alumni and friends who attended this special event. ♦

Obituaries

DR. JULIUS GORDON,

Julius Gordon, Ph.D. and his wife Eva died tragically in a car accident on February 10, 2007. Born in Budapest, Hungary on November 22, 1932 to Imre and Jolán (Kalmar), Julius Gordon



Dr. Julius Gordon

immigrated to Canada in 1951, meeting his wife Eva (Simsovits) on route and marrying her in 1954. He received his B.Sc. from Sir George Williams University in 1954 and his Ph.D. (Biochemistry) from McGill in 1959, followed by post-doctoral fellowships at the Chester Beatty Research Institute in London England and the Montreal Cancer Institute, eventually joining the McGill Department of Surgery in 1965, where he remained until his retirement in 1996. He was a cellular/molecular immunologist, at a time when

the field was still in its infancy and it was early in his career, in 1965, that he co-discovered interleukin-2, using the then innovative mixed lymphocyte reaction to study host responses to allogeneic transplants. This work was seminal to the understanding of transplant rejection and led to his future studies on the role of host immune cells and cytokines in anergic surgical patients and in cancer and earning him among others, a prestigious lifetime Medical Research Council Career Investigator award.

Julius was the Director of the Division of Surgical Research for many years until 1996. In this capacity he helped shape the graduate curriculum of the Department of Surgery and participated in the training of many surgical residents, who were inspired to combine the pursuit of basic research with their clinical careers. To those who were fortunate to interact with him closely, Julius is remembered as a consummate scientist, passionate about his work, enthusiastic, insightful, imaginative and creative but also uncompromisingly honest and critical, and always eager to engage in the exchange of ideas. He is remembered as a gifted teacher and supportive mentor, able to simplify and explain complex phenomena in a way that made them accessible and understandable even to the uninitiated, willing to listen and encourage new ideas and generous with his time and even with a personal loan, if needed. Even after his retirement, Julius kept in touch with his students and colleagues and remained passionate about science. He kept up-to-date on the latest in scientific discovery

and could often be seen in lecture halls at McGill where he came to listen to invited speakers. In his personal conduct he was a true gentleman, always polite and respectful to colleagues and students. He will be remembered fondly and missed by many whose lives he touched. His many students and trainees who are pursuing careers in science around the world are a testament to his lasting impact and his ability to inspire and guide. Julius also enjoyed life outside the laboratory. He kept fit with a weekly game of tennis and was an avid skier. He enjoyed both art and music, frequenting both concert halls and art museums.

Julius is survived by daughter Jennifer Sylvia, son Neal Francis (Norma) and grandchildren Lydia, Maya, Daniel Joshua and Sabrina.

Submitted by **Pnina Brodt, PhD** based on contributions by **Drs. Lloyd D. MacLean, Harold Rode, Nicolas Christou and Martin MacPhee.**

DR. EFFAT MACRAMALLA,

Effat Macramalla, MD, passed away peacefully on April 17, 2007 in Malone, New York at the age of 68 years. A former urologist and Associate Professor of Surgery at the MUHC from 1996-2000, Dr. Macramalla did his urology residency at McGill University. His interests were in the field of voiding dysfunction and female urology.

Dr. Macramalla was a cherished colleague, esteemed urologist and great friend to the Division of Urology at McGill. He will be sadly missed. ♦

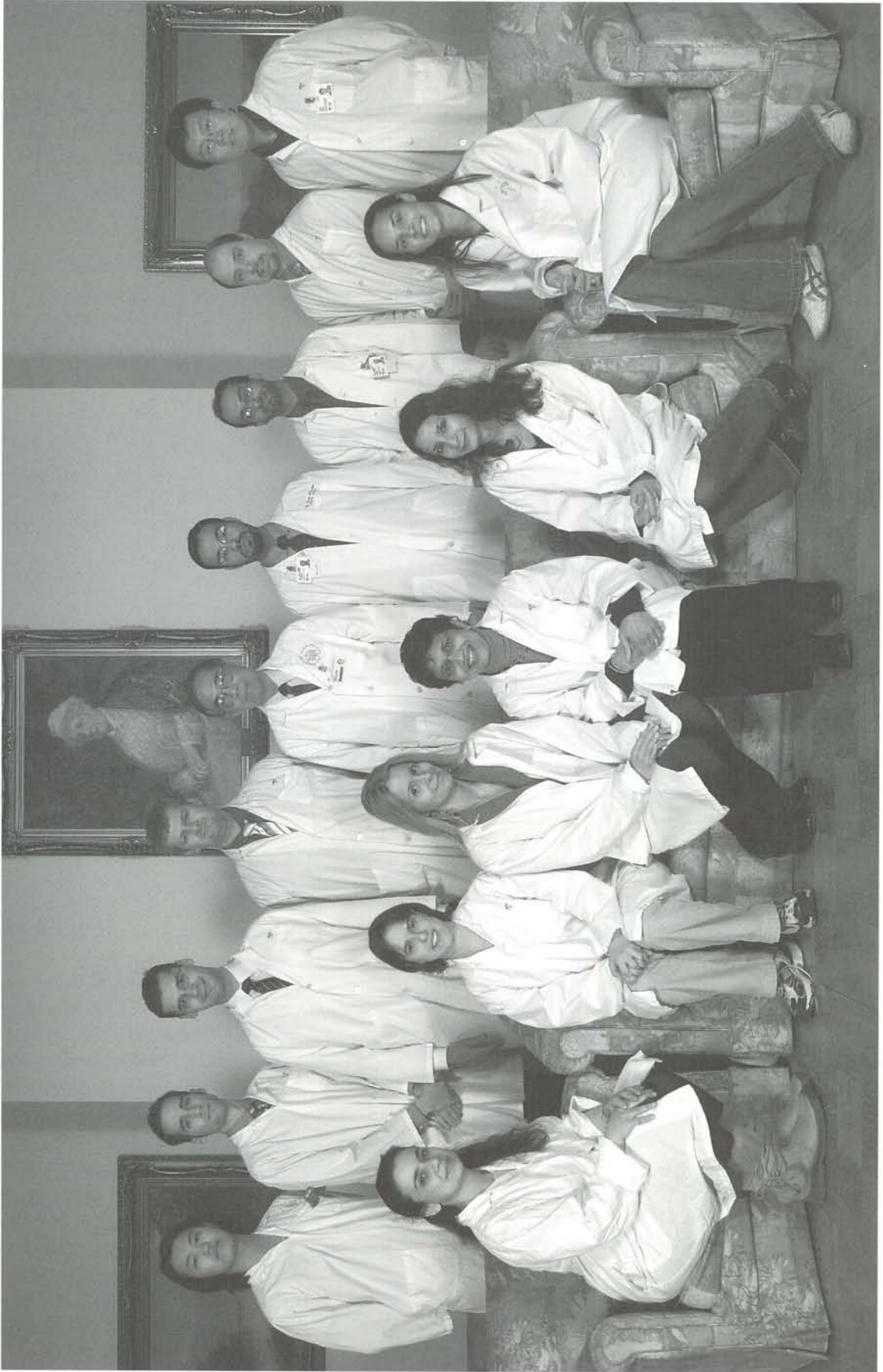
"While change is the law, certain great ideas flow fresh through the ages, and control us effectually as in the days of Pericles. Mankind, it has been said, is always advancing, man is always the same. The love, hope, fear and faith that make humanity, and the elemental passions of the human heart, remain unchanged, and the secret of inspiration in any literature is the capacity to touch the cord that vibrates in a sympathy that knows not time nor place".



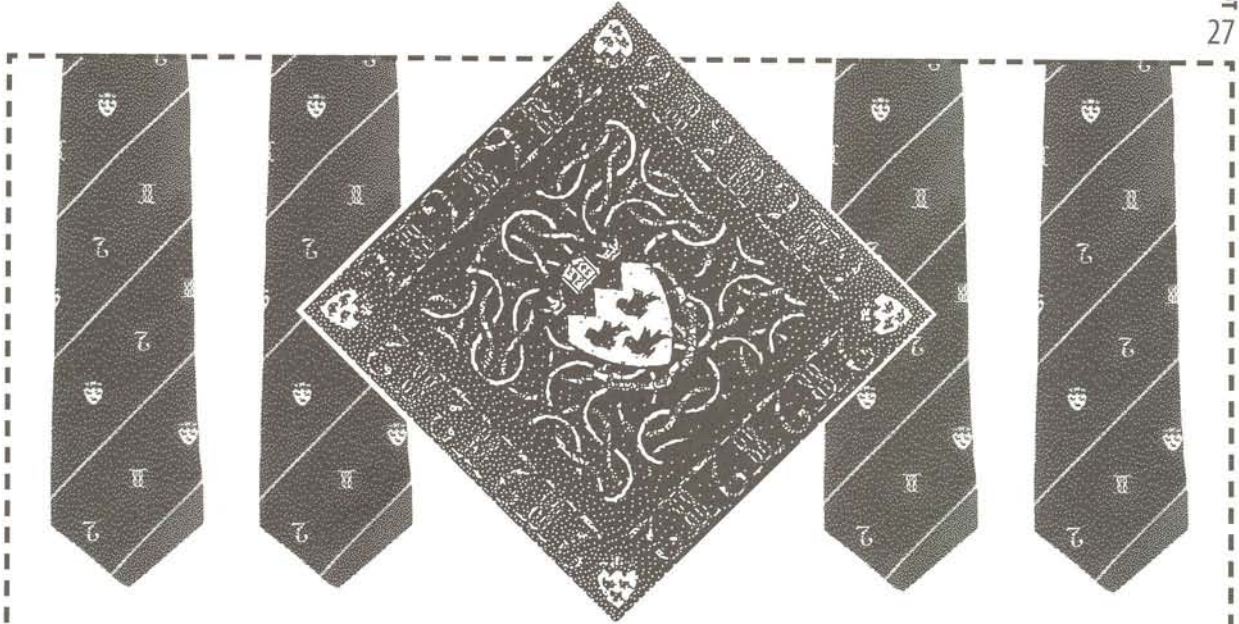
— Sir William Osler
(1849-1919)



University Surgical Clinic 2006-2007



*Standing (l to r): Carter Li, Stephen Hanley, Ivan Litvinov, Ken Finnon, Dr. Roy Chiu, Turki Al-Backer, Adil Al-Kindi, Joshua Vorstenbosch, Kai Liu
Sitting (l to r): Beatrice Assouline-Thomas, Andr ea H ebert-Losier, Genevi ve Chaput, Dr. Anie Philip, Albane Bizet, Jacintha Roberts*



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