Dear Colleagues:

After a hard winter, it is finally starting to feel like Spring is around the corner. It’s been a hard winter inside our walls as well, given the unrelenting high occupancy on top of other pressures. I am very grateful to all of you for hard work in the face of these challenges.

Despite the clinical pressures, our faculty continue to provide excellent care and excel academically. I encourage you to read through the newsletter to see the impressive list of awards, grants and publications members have racked up over the winter. I continue to be blown away by the amazing Department we have. Our Annual Report for last year is finally back from the printers and your copy should arrive in your inbox any day, please take a few minutes to look through it.
As you will be aware Sunnybrook is well along in the development of its Strategic Plan for 2018-2021. While the development process will continue until May, the Strategic Directions have been identified and the goals and objectives, while not yet set in stone, are pretty much established. The four Strategic Directions are:

- Personalized and precise treatments
- Integrated and sustainable models of care
- Quality and creating a better care experience, &
- High performing teams

I wanted to highlight a number of departmental initiatives that align with the integrated and sustainable models of care direction. Many of you will be aware of the major push we have had this past year on providing timely discharge summaries and more recently to ensuring medication reconciliation on admission, transfer and discharge from hospital in order to facilitate integration of care with our primary care colleagues. Thanks to your efforts, 90% of our patients have discharge summaries completed within 48 hours and over 85% have medication reconciliation (MedRec) performed on admission. I know this was hard work, and I am very grateful for it. There is still room to improve further but I can’t emphasize enough how important this is to better integrating care.

Over the next few months, we are going to try and push the integration agenda to the next level by leveraging technology. We will be exploring the advances in videoconferencing to offer patient visits not only to far flung parts of the province, but also to support patients transferred from Sunnybrook to the new Pine Villa supportive housing site, as well as patients in their home or workplace using the OTN Personal Videoconferencing service. I welcome your ideas of novel ways to provide care differently.

Just a quick reminder about the reappointment process through CMaRS. The process is a bit more involved this year as relationship disclosure is included and you will need to ensure you do online privacy training and have your Tb skin testing and mask fitting up to date. Please make sure you leave yourself time for these before the April 1st deadline.

Finally, I wanted to thank Helen MacKay as well as the many others who have worked on getting us ready for the expansion of complex malignant hematology here at Sunnybrook. This is an exciting development for Sunnybrook that will have an impact on every aspect of our Department. Stay tuned for further information in the coming months.

That’s all for now. Thanks again for your great work,

Kevin
Honours & awards

Dr. Umberin Najeeb:
- Was appointed the new co-director of the Master Teacher Program at the University of Toronto

Dr. Nick Daneman:
- Was appointed Division Head Infectious Diseases

Dr. Gregory Choy:
- Was appointed Division Head Rheumatology

Dr. Graham Slaughter:
- Was promoted to Assistant Professor

Dr. David Berbrayer:
- Received the OMA Life Membership Award.

Dr. Mark Boulos:

Dr. Shirley Chow:
- Received the Canadian Rheumatology Association Practise Reflection Gold Award in Feb 2018.

Dr. David Gladstone:
- Received an Heart & Stroke Foundation, Ontario Provincial Award:
Dr. Jerome Leis:

- Was a **Sunnybrook 2018 Expo Winner**. Top Poster Presentation: Multicenter Improvement Study Using Electronic Hand Hygiene Monitoring to Prevent Healthcare-associated Infections. **Principal investigator:** Dr. Jerome Leis **Co-authors:** Natalie Coyle, MSc, CCPA, BSc-PA, Tanya Agnihotri Bsc MHI (cand.), Natasha Salt CIC, Lorraine Maze dit Mieusement, Kuldeep Virdi, Melisa Avaness, Sue Thorne, Alex Kiss, PhD, Kaveh Shojania MD

Dr. Kathleen Pritchard:

- Received the **Order of Canada** for her contributions to the treatment of breast cancer in women, notably as a leader of influential national and international clinical trials.

Dr. Neil Shear:

- Presented the **Stuart Maddin Memorial Lecture** at the Maui Derm Dermatology meeting
- Became an **Honorary Member Societe francaise de dermatologie** in recognition of accomplishments in Dermatology and Venerology.

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**Grants and Publications**

View the full list of Grants and Publications